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DRUG-TRADE VOLUNTEERS.

It is suggested (page 721) that members of the drug-trade who are Volunteers should send us postcards bearing name, address, rank, regiment, and service, with a view to the compilation, and probably publication, of a list of pharmaceutical Volunteers. We shall be glad to receive responses to this request

THE C. & D. PUBLISHER

has not asked us to say anything about our new DIARY this week, and we take that to mean that he has had about enough advertisements for the DIARY. Anyway, November 3 is the closing-day; and by the time that this issue of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST gets into the hands of advertisers, there will be little opportunity left for securing space.

We may have something to say about the DIARY next week, by which time the Australian copies will be out of the binders' hands. We may say now, however, that the DIARY will be in advance of the thirty-one issues which preceded it; and subscribers whose dues fall to be paid on December 1 should renew their subscriptions before that, so that they may get their copies with the first batch. Subscriptions expiring on November 30, 1899, are not entitled to THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY, 1900.

Summary.

THE Company question is still to the front. On Wednesday the Pharmaceutical Council discussed it thoroughly. The Law Committee had sent up a clause of the "no title, no trading" stamp. This was defeated by a vote of 10 to 8 after a long debate. Mr. Glyn-Jones, backed by Mr. Walter Hills, led off the winning party, which argues for the title and a qualified directorate (p. 758).

IT looks as if carbolic acid will be scheduled as a poison after all (p. 756).

SEYCHELLES trade seems to be good. There is a note about it on p. 735.

AN EXTRAORDINARY PHARMACIST writes about the present situation on p. 747.

CARDAMOMS, cinchonine, digitalis, and male fern are some of the subjects dealt with on p. 751.

REFORM OF THE MINOR EXAMINATION was advocated at Glasgow by Mr. J. T. Gilmour (p. 746).

MR. W. LLOYD WILLIAMS, of Dartford, a well-known young pharmacist, died on Sunday (p. 740).

THE BREWERS' EXHIBITION contains a lot of interesting things, but few aerated water exhibits (p. 748).

A CHEMIST in Yorkshire has had to pay a boy compensation for an alleged error in giving atropine for acetanilide (p. 764).

THE SACCHARIN case is before the Courts again, and this time the chemical evidence is instructive and interesting (p. 764).

SMALL SHOPKEEPERS who sell bad drugs are now pleading that they should not be expected to know the B.P. (p. 765).

DR. NINIAN FALKNER delivered the inaugural address at the Dublin School of Pharmacy on Tuesday. It is reported on p. 738.

THE SCARBOROUGH CORONER has had a tough witness in a chemist who did not fall in with his views about prescribing (p. 732).

OUR Japanese correspondent estimates that the peppermint-crop in Japan this year will be about half that of last season (p. 771).

A PORTRAIT of Mr. Thornthwaite, President of the Optical Society, accompanies an abstract of his presidential address (p. 742).

THE NAMES of those who passed the Pharmaceutical Preliminary examination in Great Britain last month are printed on 763.

THE LETTER about ships' medicine-chests which the Sunderland Chemists' Association has sent to the Board of Trade is printed on p. 757.

MR. A. W. GERRARD thinks that apprenticeship in pharmacy is a waste of time. So he said in an address to Midland Assistants (p. 743).

OUR WAR NOTES this week include extracts from letters by chemists in South Africa, and notes of interviews with Mr. J. C. Hewlett and others (p. 737).

MR. HYSLOP, the ethical pharmacist, has spoken in delightful vein before the Chemists' Assistants' Association about the pharmacist as he should be (p. 744).

MR. F. SHEPARD, of Fulham, has had to pay a young lady 25*l.* because he gave her in charge of the police for stealing a bottle of perfume, and did not follow up the charge (p. 766).

TRADE IN MINCING LANE is dull this week. Camphor has gone up 2*d.* per lb.; cinchona is up 15 per cent. in Amsterdam; and the orris-root speculation is enhancing the price of that article greatly, Chiris, of Grasse, being the moving spirit (p. 771).

English News

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Analysts' Fees.

At a meeting of the Middlesex County Council on October 26, the General Purposes Committee presented a report dealing with the remuneration of Mr. Edward Bevan, the analyst. They pointed out that when Mr. Bevan was appointed in 1892 the average number of samples submitted was about 800, and the Council then agreed as a sort of retaining-fee to pay 21s. per sample for the first 200 samples, and 10s. 6d. after. Since that time the number of samples had gradually increased yearly, and the payments, which were 687% in 1893, had risen to 1,693% in 1899. Mr. Bevan, when asked about the matter, wrote to the Council pointing out that the average per sample for the past three years was 11s. 7½d., the average for fifty-five counties being 13s. 3d. In Lancashire in 1895-96 the average was 14s. 9d., and the analysts also acted for five other towns. In many places the analysts had fees and expenses for attending the court, but he received neither. He was allowed nothing for rent, chemicals, apparatus, postage, &c. Assistance had to be provided out of the amount he had. He only had 10s. 6d. per sample as agricultural analyst, which was about half the usual fee. He also only had 10s. 6d. for samples of effluent. Besides, his time was so fully occupied with the work of the county that he was unable to take any other public appointment, or devote much time to the general business of his firm. This was written as far back as 1897, and when his attention was called to the matter—no action at that time having been agreed upon—he referred to the fact that other bodies paid salaries and provided laboratory and so on. In one case an analyst analysed 1,400 samples, and was paid 1,100% per annum, with two laboratories and unskilled assistance. He left himself in the hands of the committee. The committee recommended that a fee of 10s. 6d. per sample should be paid as from January next. The report was adopted without comment. It was stated that the total cost of enforcing the Food and Drugs Act in the county is about 2,500% per annum.

London University Examinations.

The following pass-list for the D.Sc. examination has been issued:—*Chemistry*: Martin O. Forster (Granville Scholarship), Royal College of Science; Edwin C. Jee, Central Technical College; Thomas M. Lowry, Central Technical College; Gilbert T. Morgan, Royal College of Science; Robert H. Pickard, Mason University College. *Botany*: Albert H. Trow, private study.

Bovril and Special Terms.

The Penzance Board of Guardians, at its meeting on October 26, received from the workhouse medical officer a recommendation to the effect that invalid-bovril should be used in the future in the house in preference to beef-tea. One of the district medical officers made a similar recommendation, and at the same time a letter was received from Bovril (Limited) stating that they were willing to supply bovril to the Guardians on special terms. The matter was referred to the Visiting Committee.

Guernsey News.

The latest addition to the ranks of medical practitioners in Guernsey is Dr. Henry Draper Bishop, who has been duly granted permission to practise by the Courts, as being properly qualified.

Football.

Metropolitan College of Pharmacy *v.* Kensington Rangers Reserves.—The match between these teams at Shepherd's Bush on October 28 resulted in a win for the College by 4 goals to 2.

Northern College of Pharmacy *v.* Owens College.—A team of students from the Northern College met a mixed team of medicals and pharmaceuticals on October 31 at Longsight,

Manchester. A pleasant game resulted in a win for Owens by 8 goals to nil.

Remitted.

When Alexander Fraser was again brought before the Swindon Magistrates last week on the charge of stealing a cash-box containing over 20% from Mr. Joseph H. B. Green, chemist there, he pleaded to be sent to the Quarter Sessions rather than to the Assizes (where Mr. Justice Day will be the Judge), but the Magistrate was deaf to his request.

Carbolic poisonings.

Elizabeth Wilkinson, of Stalybridge, poisoned herself on October 26 by drinking a quantity of carbolic acid.

Lancelot B. Todel, a Llandudno doctor, took a dose of carbolic acid on October 26, and died a short time afterwards. Deceased had shown mental symptoms of a disquieting nature.

Annie Antoinette Holbrook, aged 41 years, of Stretford, Manchester, died on October 27 from the effects of carbolic-acid poisoning. The deceased had been staying for some time at a nursing-institution in Birkdale, suffering from debility, and left on the previous Saturday of last week. On Monday she went on a visit to some friends at Southport, and whilst staying with them she took the acid, which was used for disinfecting purposes. Deceased was engaged to be married to a gentleman who had recently come in for a large sum of money. A verdict of death from misadventure was returned.

The Difference between Water-analysts.

Considerable discussion took place at the London County Council meeting on October 31 on the recommendation of the Water Committee to authorise the chemist to continue the analyses of water from the Thames and the Lea for a further period of six months. Mr. Bond, M.P., said it was a wilful waste which had distinguished the work of other departments of the Council. He saw no reason for going on with the matter, for the only effect was to get up scientific squabbles in which experts agreed to differ as to the best methods of analysis. He moved that the report be referred back. Dr. Longstaffe seconded that amendment. Mr. Idris said the chemists of the water companies were questioning the accuracy of the Council's chemist. As the samples were not taken from the same places they had reason to do so. All that was wanted was information. The recommendation was carried.

This matter about the difference was referred to in last week's CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, and now came before the Council, who agreed to ask the Local Government Board whether they would extend their investigations to a daily examination of the water supplied by the companies.

Fire.

A somewhat alarming fire occurred on October 28, at the Hull Drug-stores in Prospect Street. Thomas Milburn, the son of the manager, had occasion to go into the stores at the rear of the premises for some turpentine, when the match he struck ignited the inflammable vapour emitted, and set the place rapidly in a blaze. Two casks of turpentine and methylated spirit, of 3 cwt each, exploded, causing a brilliant blaze. The fire-brigade prevented the flames spreading to the adjoining houses. The damage is rather extensive, but is covered by insurance.

The Scarborough Coroner Again.

At an inquest on the death of an infant 17 months old, held at Scarborough, Mr. Brown, chemist and druggist, of North Marine Road, had the better of a somewhat amusing contention with the Coroner (Mr. Geo. Taylor). The mother of the child went to Mr. Brown and, explaining that it had a cough and was somewhat "closed," purchased some cough-mixture. Subsequently the child died, but, as it appeared, the cough-remedy had nothing to do with that. The Coroner, as the *Scarborough Evening News* remarks, has an "aversion" to cough-mixtures, which our contemporary has noted before, and it very ably criticises his conduct of the case as regards Mr. Brown, who attended the inquest on October 26. From the following report the Coroner evidently came in a bad second:—

"You sold this woman some cough-mixture?" asked the Coroner. Mr. Brown answered in the affirmative. "What did it

contain?" The chemist gave the information. "The woman told you about the child," asked the Coroner, "and you gave her some cough-mixture?" "That is so," was the reply. "Do you know it is illegal for a chemist to prescribe?" "I did not prescribe; the woman came and said her child had a cough and was slightly 'closed,' and I sold her some made-up medicine—cough-mixture—suitable as a mild expectorant." "Did you not ask her questions?" "I may have done," answered Mr. Brown. "Then is not that prescribing?" the Coroner retorted, tartly. "Certainly not," said Mr. Brown; "most decidedly not, in the strict sense of the word." "You see," went on the Coroner, "harm is often done by people going to a chemist instead of to a doctor. They think it is cheaper, that is why they go, and harm is often done, isn't it?" Mr. Brown replied that no harm could be done in that particular case, as the mixture was quite harmless. With regard to the general statement, harm might sometimes be done, but he had lived long enough to know that all the bad eggs were not in one basket. The Coroner went on at some length and gave advice to Mr. Brown, or rather suggested that the practice of selling medicine for a child without a doctor having seen it was not the proper thing. Mr. Brown said the Coroner's "advice was good, but it could not be followed." Afterwards the doctor was questioned as to the mixture. It was quite harmless, the dose was small, very small, he thought, and the medicine itself "certainly could do no harm, and might have done a little good."

The Coroner pursued the matter no further.

A Doctor's Death.

Dr. Burns, a well-known Sunderland medical practitioner, was found dead in his surgery on October 31. He had been called upon to resign his position as a medical officer under the Board of Guardians by the Local Government Board a short time ago, as the result of an inquiry held into certain charges of alleged drunkenness and neglect during the performance of his parish duties. The cause of death has not yet been investigated.

A Narrow Escape.

The premises of Mr. W. J. Sanders, chemist, of Queen Street, Cardiff, have had a narrow escape from destruction. They are situated near one of the entrances to the Empire Music Hall, which at 6 o'clock on Tuesday morning was discovered to be on fire. This building was completely gutted, but fortunately the flames were prevented from spreading to the retiring-rooms and offices, which compose the front elevation. Had these caught fire, nothing could have saved Mr. Sanders's shop.

Vermin-killer Suicides.

At Poplar on October 31, at an inquiry into the death of Florence Eason, aged 17, the evidence showed that deceased, who had quarrelled with her sweetheart, took a quantity of vermin-killer and died shortly after. The medical evidence showed that death was due to strychnine-poisoning, and the jury, in returning a verdict of suicide while insane, strongly condemned the unrestricted sale of such deadly poisons.

On the same date the West Ham Coroner held an inquest on the body of Grace Rebecca Rowe, aged 20, who committed suicide by swallowing phosphorus paste. The jury returned a like verdict, and, as in the preceding case, expressed themselves strongly as to the sale of this poison.

A Fatal Sticking-plaster.

At an inquiry held at Tottenham respecting the death of Archibald Welsh, clerk, it was stated that deceased was accidentally scratched on the forehead by his dog, and to stop the bleeding he tore a piece off the gummed edge of an envelope and stuck it over the wound. A few days afterwards erysipelas set in, and deceased died from septicæmia. Dr. O'Meara, who gave medical evidence, said it was an unwise thing to put gummed paper over a wound, as the gum often contained impurities.

A Big Order for Weed-killer.

At the meeting of Lindsey (Lincoln) County Council on October 27, permission was asked by the Louth District Council to use the liquid weed-killer upon two miles of main road, it being understood that Mr. Jackson, who would supply the weed-killer, would be responsible for any damage. The Highways Committee resolved that, on condition that no liability should attach to them, they would have no objection

to the proposals of the District Council. Several members spoke of the danger of the "killer," and the arsenic which it contained, but an amendment to the effect that the experiment should not be allowed was negatived.

Chemists as Public Men.

Mr. W. G. Essery, pharmaceutical chemist, is a member of the Plymouth Town Council.

Mr. Geo. Foster Clarke, Maidstone, has been re-elected, unopposed, as a member of the Town Council.

Mr. Thos. Critchley, chemist and druggist, has been re-elected, unopposed, to the Blackburn Town Council.

Mr. W. E. Roberts, chemist, has been returned unopposed to the Beaumaris Town Council. He is a new member.

Mr. Walter Lloyd, chemist, Carmarthen, has been again returned to the Town Council.

Mr. F. Bentley, wholesale chemist and druggist, Sbelton, has been returned unopposed to the Hanley Town Council.

Mr. Christopher Clayton, chemist and druggist, Oxford, has been re-elected, unopposed, a member of the Corporation.

Mr. Thos. Perry Bane, chemist and druggist, has been re-elected, unopposed, a member of the Marlborough Town Council.

Mr. J. A. Lamble, a well-known member of the Three Towns Chemists' Association, is a member of the Devonport Borough Council.

Mr. W. J. Barnes, chemist, Dover, has been returned, unopposed, a member of the Dover Town Council. Mr. Barnes, who has been a member of the Town Council since 1886, has during the past year been Deputy-Mayor under Sir William Orundall. His name is mentioned as Mayor-elect, but the selection has not yet been made.

Mr. F. W. Bird, chemist and druggist, has been returned, unopposed, to the Coventry City Council. Mr. Bird thus enters upon his twentieth year as a member of the Council. He is one of the busiest public men in Coventry, being also chairman of the School Board, a trustee of the important estates of the Freeman, and a member of the Church Charities Trust.

Mr. T. S. Alder, chemist and druggist, has been returned without opposition to the Newcastle-on-Tyne City Council. Mr. Alder has been a member of the Council for many years, and is at present, we regret to learn, suffering from pneumonia following influenza. Another chemist-member of the Newcastle Council is Alderman W. Owen, of Barras Bridge.

The drug-trade is well represented on Grimsby Town Council. Mr. J. Carter White, chemist and druggist, has been re-elected, and Mr. Thomas Brown, an old-established chemist, who had previously been on the Council, but was defeated three years ago, has again been successful. One of his most active supporters was Mr. Cornelius Willson, a fellow-chemist; and Alderman E. Palmer, J.P., President of the local Association, was in charge of the polling at one of the wards.

Irish News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Business Changes.

Mr. John A. Woodside, L.P.S.I., of Messrs. Bonnar, Henderson & Woodside, chemists, Ballymena, has taken over the business of Mr. J. Swenz, druggist, Church Street, Ballymena, having bought the fittings and stock at the auction recently.

Mr. Samuel Suffern, registered druggist, Shankhill Road, Belfast, has now removed into new premises a few doors on the same side of the street. The premises were burned down while Mr. Suffern was removing into them, and considerable damage done to the stock, the premises having to be rebuilt.

Trade Notes.

The Ulster Chemists (Limited), Belfast, have just issued a new price-list. An edition of 50,000 is understood to have been issued.

Tenders are being invited for the stock and fixtures in the estate of Joseph Edgar, chemist and druggist, Dromore, and for the estate of the late James Mahon, Sandy Row, Belfast. The cost price of Mr. Edgar's stock-in-trade is given as 42*l.* 3*s.* 11*d.*

The manufacture of carbide of calcium is about to be established by Mr. J. B. Hewson, J.P., at Askeaton, County Limerick.

Want an Explanation.

The Local Government Board have written to the Guardians of the Killarney Union asking for an explanation of the circumstances under which they accepted the tender of Mr. O'Crowley for the supply of drugs and medicines at 15 per cent. dearer than offered by the Cork Chemical Company. A good deal of heat was displayed by the Guardians in the matter, and eventually it was resolved, by a majority of two votes, to stand by Mr. O'Crowley, and the latter's bond was perfected accordingly.

Contracts.

At a meeting of the Mallow Board of Guardians it was resolved to accept the tender of the Cork Chemical-requisite Company for the supply of medicines at 50 per cent. off the list-price; and that of Messrs. Harrington & Son, Cork, for the supply of surgical instruments.

Messrs Thacker & Hoffe, Dublin, and Harrington & Sons, Cork, have been appointed contractors for the supply of surgical appliances and medicines respectively to the Clonakilty Board of Guardians.

The tender of Messrs. Leslie & Co. (Limited), Dublin, for the supply of drugs and medical appliances at a reduction of 50 and 40 per cent. respectively off the official price-list, has been accepted by the Kilrush (Clare) Board of Guardians.

Analysts' Appointments.

The Local Government Board have sanctioned the appointment of Mr. Blake, F.I.C., Belfast, as analyst to the Antrim Union.

Sir Charles Cameron, Dublin, has been appointed analyst to the Cookstown Union and the Mount Mellick Union.

The L.G.B. Tip.

The Local Government Board have informed the Poor Law Guardians at Ardee that Messrs. P. A. Leslie & Co., and Messrs. Peacocke, Leslie & Co., Dublin, are one and the same firm of drug and chemical dealers, and should not, therefore, be given both the contracts for the supply of medicines and surgical appliances to the Union. A copy of the letter from the L.G.B. was sent to Messrs. Leslie for their observation.

Complaint against Contractors.

At the meeting of the Fermoy Guardians the report of the analysis of drugs supplied by the Cork Chemical and Drug Company was received from Sir Thomas Cameron. All the drugs were reported correct with the exception of the tincture of opium and the ipecacuanha-wine, both of which were returned as deficient in quantity of extract. The wine, the report said, could not have been made with ordinary sherry wine. The Guardians have asked the L.G.B. what steps they are to take now.

Medicine-contract Terminated.

The Ballyshannon Guardians, at their last meeting, received a communication from the Local Government Board in reference to the inquiry as to discrepancies between the quantities of certain drugs ordered and received, and the excessive charges for particular articles. The L.G.B. consider the facts elicited reflect so injuriously on the contractor—Mr. Boyer, Sligo—that they call upon the Guardians to terminate the contract.

How Recoupment is Calculated.

At the meeting of the Omagh Guardians on October 28 a letter was read from the L.G.B. for Ireland stating that recoupment in respect of the cost of medicines will be calculated upon an abatement of 42 per cent., and recoup-

ment on the cost of appliances upon an abatement of 26 per cent.

The Guardians Know Better.

At the last meeting of the Armagh Board of Guardians, a discussion took place with regard to methylated spirit ordered by two doctors, and the Guardians wrote to the Local Government Board, asking if the expense were incurred would the L.G.B. refund half the cost of same, and also if methylated spirit was included in the requisites for dispensary practice. In reply, the L.G.B. stated that they would not refund half the cost, but that, nevertheless, the Guardians should procure such for the doctors when requisitioned to do so. The Guardians now decided that they would not purchase the methylated spirit.

Scotch News.

Local newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

A Cure for Leprosy.

In the Linlithgow Small-debt Court on October 27, Robert Jones, described as a herbalist, sued Henry Lowe, shoemaker, Bathgate, for 2*l.* Jones alleged that defendant had suffered from a skin disease, and that he undertook to cure him for 2*l.* This offer, he said, was accepted, and the treatment was proceeded with, the result being that defendant was cured, but the 2*l.* had not been paid. The Sheriff: What was the disease? Pursuer: You can call it leprosy. I rubbed him three times and cured him. The defendant had been under the treatment of an Edinburgh professor, but it was not until he was treated by me that he was cured, and this I did in ten days' time. He was not a medical man, but "he went in for that sort of thing," and had got as much as 5*l.* at one time for effecting a cure. Defendant denied that he had ever been treated by plaintiff in any shape or form, and also denied that any bargain had been entered into between them. The case was dismissed.

A Corporation Chemist.

The Corporation of Glasgow has resolved to appoint a chemist who will devote his whole time to the work of the city, and whose duties will include the granting of certificates under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act, 1899. Messrs. R. R. Tatlock & Clark, who are the present public analysts, think this is an invasion of their privileges, and at a meeting of the Corporation on October 30, a letter was read from them stating that they had filled the post of public analysts to the city for twenty-five years without salary, their sole remuneration consisting of the fees for the analyses of samples handed to them, those fees being small compared with the ordinary fee charged by the public analysts of large communities. Should they be superseded, the public might regard their dismissal as a vote of censure, and they requested the Corporation to reconsider whether their long services deserved this treatment.

A Chemist's Death.

On October 31 Arthur Terence Smith, chemist, aged 28, of 108 Main Street, Maryhill, was found dead in bed. Mr. Smith had complained on the previous day of a pain in his chest, and a poultice was applied. He appeared to recover, but died during the night.

CHLORATE OF POTASH IN TURKEY.—The French Chamber of Commerce at Constantinople reports that the entry of chlorate of potash is severely forbidden into Turkey; it is not even allowed to enter the country in transit. Hence the only way of sending it to Persia is *via* Trebizond. Many merchants ignore this prohibition, and send it either to Turkey, or as transit goods *via* Turkey. In such a case it is usually confiscated, and the owner has to pay a heavy fine. To ensure the payment of this the Ottoman Customs seize the goods till the amount has been paid.

French News.

(From our Paris Correspondent.)

A PHARMACIEN POET—M. Edouard Pavèse, pharmacien at Chambéry, has published a very interesting little volume of poems called "*Léger des Fleuries*," illustrated by himself with pen-and-ink sketches. As the title indicates, flowers form the principal subject-matter of the verses, of which the author gives eighteen in a little book of a hundred pages.

HELP FOR THE WOUNDED BOERS.—In the interest of Boer widows and orphans a Mme. de Jouvencel makes an anti-English appeal for contributions of drugs, medicines, linen, &c., and undertakes to pay the carriage to the Transvaal. The Association des Dames Françaises is also making a Boer effort, and has arranged to despatch a field hospital to the Transvaal, with a staff of doctors, pharmacists, and lady nurses. Some of the students in the Quartier Latin are likewise at work with a view to giving aid to the Boers.

A PHARMACIEN'S PATIENT.—The following anecdote comes from a pharmacy near the rue de la Paix. The other day a well-dressed man walked in there hurriedly. He wore a look of serious alarm, and the pharmacien pulled himself together, prepared for the worst, but noticed that another man whom he recognised as the assistant of a neighbouring jeweller had followed. The latter explained the trouble with: "This gentleman has swallowed a brooch in our shop." This seemed serious, but a cursory examination showed that the pin had caught in the man's throat, thus preventing the brooch from going further. With infinite care the pharmacien removed the piece of jewellery from its awkward position, greatly to the patient's relief. Then the jeweller's assistant asserted himself, declaring that the well-dressed man had tried to steal the brooch by putting it in his mouth. The altercation waxed warm and ended by the pharmacien having, gently but firmly, to request the disputants to terminate it at the nearest police-station.

INTERNATIONAL PHARMACEUTICAL CONGRESS—The General Secretary of the 1900 Pharmaceutical Congress, as announced in the *C. & D.* summer issue of July 29, was to have been Professor Bourquelot, of the Paris School of Pharmacy and chief pharmacist of the Laennec Hospital, Paris, but he has since resigned the post. The vacant post is to be filled by M. Crinon, who was referred to in a recent *C. & D.*, and who will be remembered by all who attended the last International Pharmaceutical Congress at Brussels as a clear-headed thinker and keen-witted debater, well versed in all matters appertaining to the profession and its legal restrictions. Perhaps it is just this thorough knowledge of his subject which gives a certain tone to his speech and action. "Et surtout pas de zèle," was Talleyrand's parting recommendation to a young diplomatist, and M. Crinon believes in practical and precisely-worded, not vague and platonic, resolutions. He is, therefore, a nearly indispensable man at French pharmacy gatherings. Even those who may not share his views on a particular point are compelled to admit that if his criticisms are scathing his judgment is cool, shrewd, and practical. Few would suspect this calm, precise orator to have been a poet in his more youthful days. Yet certain patriotic effusions might be cited, written during the Siege of Paris, and entitled "*Vengeons-nous*," in which Bismarck, "ministre ambitieux, diplomate arrogant," the old Emperor William,

Ce roi vicieux, qui boit, comme il se bat, en invoquant les cieux,

are treated with but little respect. But for the sake of German friends who intend to join the Congress, one may hasten to add that the French Emperor is even more scathingly summed up "*Parjure, libertain, espote sans courage*," and his "*maréchaux de salon*," "*généraux de parade*," are severely criticised. The poem ends:—

Combattons en poussant ce cri patriotique,
Mort à nos ennemis! Vive la République!

Twenty years have not diminished M. Crinon's taste for literature. But now it takes the more prosaic form of editing a pharmacy-journal.

Colonial and Foreign News.

THE DUTCH BUDGET for 1900 contains the following items: For the Pharmacopœia Commission for buying books, apparatus, &c., and for working out a supplement to the present Pharmacopœia, 2,500fl.; for the three pharmaceutical laboratories in Leyden, Utrecht, and Groningen together, 7,900fl.

A RARE METAL.—A discovery of palladium is advised from South Australia. According to the report, samples of stone from surface outcrops near Mount Torrens were being assayed for gold at the Government battery, when the assayer found another metal present. After careful testing he ascertained it to be palladium, the yield being 17 oz. 6 dwt. 11 gr., with 16 dwt. 21 gr. gold to the ton. The value is about 112l. per lb.

INSECTICIDE-INDUSTRY.—Efforts are being made by Americans to introduce the refuse of the Virginia tobacco-plantations into England for the purpose of making insecticide. The British Government, it appears, allows solutions to be imported free from the tobacco-duty when the nicotine contains less than 10 per cent. of solid extract. *Commercial Intelligence* therefore asserts that the market for inferior colonial tobacco-leaf will be affected, but, on the other hand, it is desirable that insecticide should be manufactured at the lowest cost possible.

PROPRIETARIES IN BRAZIL.—The order recently issued by the Brazilian State health authorities that all imported medicinal preparations must be accompanied by their formulas (see *C. & D.*, July 22, page 115) has given rise to a great deal of dissatisfaction throughout Brazil, and it is rumoured that the law may be repealed. Brazil has always been a good field for the sale of patent medicines, and it would appear as if the Board of Health, in adopting such a measure, were acting at the instigation of local manufacturing chemists to try and stifle the patent-medicine business.

PHARMACY IN SPAIN.—The Pharmaceutical Association for the province of Catalonia met at Barcelona last month. Amongst other things it was resolved the Government should be asked to establish chemical and pharmaceutical laboratories in the country, and that all mineral waters and proprietary medicines introduced into the country should be examined and otherwise made to conform to the same regulations as Spanish medicines. It was also agreed that patent or proprietary medicines should not be saleable until the formulae were deposited at the College of Pharmacy of the province where the maker or seller resides, and that all foreign medicines should be excluded unless the country of origin permits the sale of similar Spanish preparations.

TRADE OF SEYCHELLES.—The Government trade-returns for 1898 have just been published, showing that the total imports into the colony were valued at 1,009,681l., and the exports at 1,381,514l. Although neither of these totals equal those of 1897 (a record year) they must be considered very satisfactory if the returns of only a few years ago are considered. The value of the drugs imported was as follows:—

From England	...	38 cases, valued at	2,265l.
" France	...	82 "	2,968l.
" Mauritius	...	21 "	334l.
" India	...	14 "	682l.

Caustic soda, for soap-making, was imported from England *via* Mauritius to the extent of 8,400 kilos., valued at 847l. Amongst the exports, vanilla of course is the most important (see Trade Report). Coconut oil was exported to the extent of 13,208 hectolitres, valued at 354,430l., and soap (to Madagascar and E. Coast of Africa) 189,645 kilos., valued at 56,923l. Our new Administrator, Mr. Sweet-Escott, is expected here to take over the government of the island early in November. He will have a difficult task to set matters right. Thanks to mismanagement on the part of the Colonial Office, as well as of the authorities here, over two-thirds of the 300,000l. recently voted by the Imperial Parliament to assist us in road-making has been squandered in experiments with Indian coolies.—*From our Seychelles Correspondent.*

East Indian News.

PLAGUE-VICTIMS.—Dr. Herbert Cromley, a well-known dentist of Bombay and Poona, was on October 6 admitted into the Sassoon Hospital, Poona, suffering from a mild attack of plague. Mr. Dalton, manager for Messrs. Beynon & Co., chemists, Bombay, who was also a victim, is pronounced out of danger.

THE DUCKWARI PLANTATIONS COMPANY (LIMITED).—The annual report of the directors states that the returns of crop have been 277,408 lbs. tea and 10,012 lbs. cardamoms, against 229,670 lbs. tea and 12,655 lbs. cardamoms last season. The estimates for the coming season are 300,000 lbs. tea and 12,000 lbs. cardamoms. A 7-per-cent. dividend has been declared on the ordinary and 7 per cent. on the preference shares.

THE MUKTESAR LABORATORY FIRE.—Further particulars show that this disaster (reported in last week's issue) originated in the pantry, a live coal having dropped unseen upon the wooden floor. The building was practically gutted, but temporary arrangements have been made for carrying on both the experimental and office work, and no time will be lost in rebuilding. The whole of the apparatus and cultures for the preparation of mallein vaccine was destroyed, but the rinderpest-vaccine apparatus was saved.

PEPPER-EXPORTS FROM SOUTH INDIA.—Mr. R. Tatham, agent for Messrs. Arbuthnot & Co., Tellicherry, in his annual report on coffee and pepper for the year ending June 30, 1899, states that the exports of the latter spice amounted to 237,041 cwt., or some 89 per cent. more than was shipped last year, the value of which, at an average of 32 8s. per cwt., amounts to 7,703 832r. 8a. The price of pepper averaged 8r 8a. per cwt. over that of the previous year; and, although Tellicherry still continues to be the chief port of export for this spice, the large and increasing quantity shipped from the ports of Cochin and Alleppey is remarkable.

SHIPMENTS OF BOGUS CINNAMON.—The Committee of the Ceylon Chamber of Commerce is to consider the question of shipments of spurious cinnamon from Ceylon, and Mr. A. Schulze, of Colombo, who has had considerable experience of the cinnamon-trade, will present a report on the subject. Ratnapura is the centre of this bogus industry, and attention was attracted to it by the fact that the sham cinnamon-bark is obtained from plants growing in the Crown jungle. It is known to many natives and others that there is a plant growing wild very similar to the cinnamon-plant, and which is sometimes substituted for it, but which is of no value for commercial purposes. This substitution has of late assumed serious proportions, hence the official notice of it.

MISDESCRIPTION OF GOODS.—Amongst the cases recently heard before the Colombo Court was one instituted by Messrs. Volkart Brothers against the Collector of Customs for the recovery of 157-93r. in respect of eight cases of methylated spirit, intended for testing citronella oil, and one case containing 200 sample glasses, which the Collector confiscated on the grounds that the goods were misdescribed in the entry. The defendant pleaded that the plaintiffs wrongfully and fraudulently misdescribed the spirits, and that the goods did not agree with the particulars in the entry, and consequently they were confiscated by him. On behalf of the plaintiffs it was submitted that they used to purchase locally methylated spirit for testing citronella oil, but at the suggestion of their Galle branch they imported the spirit from Europe. The reason why the plaintiffs brought this action was owing to the charge made in the correspondence that passed between the parties of having willfully and fraudulently misdescribed the goods. There was no idea of defrauding the revenue, the article being properly described as methylated spirit. For the defence it was contended that by the misdescription the revenue was subjected to loss, and therefore the Collector was within his rights in confiscating the goods misdescribed. Dr. Allan de Saram, the Government Analyst, had analysed a sample of the spirit, and found the same to be rectified spirit, 38.9 per cent. over proof. In the result the plaintiffs' action was dismissed, with costs, the Court blaming the clerks in the plaintiffs' employ for the error.

South African News.

(From our Correspondents.)

Mr. L. F. MOORE, of Moore & Co., Abercorn Street, Bulawayo, has been elected President of the Rhodesia Pharmaceutical Society.

"**SALVITAS**" is a trade word which the Live-stock Ailments Remedy Proprietary (Limited), of Melbourne, are registering at the Cape.

Mr. M. D. Mitchell, who has been for nearly three years with Mr. Thomas, Claremont, O.C., has gone north to Rhodesia, to join Messrs. Smart & Copley's staff.

A **PATENT** has been applied for at the Cape covering a "process for the production of headless matches," by Soren Lemoig, engineer, and Aage Georg Kirschner, chemist, both of Copenhagen.

THE NEW PHARMACY ACT.—The Cape Government is still without any communication from the Medical Council or Pharmacy Board recommending data to proclaim the two sections of the new Bill law. The matter is, however, receiving attention.

MRS. BYRNE, widow of the late Mr. F. J. Byrne, pharmaceutical chemist, Abercorn Street, Bulawayo, will continue her husband's business under the management of Mr. Frank R. Franks, formerly of Devizes, &c., who has been associated with the business almost from the commencement.

SOUTH AFRICAN DRUGS.—A committee, consisting of Dr. Beck (President of the Cape Medical Council), as President, and Drs. Silke and Hewat, and Mr. Mathew (President of the Cape Pharmacy Board and Pharmaceutical Society of Cape Colony), and Mr. F. W. C. Thomas (member of the Pharmacy Board), has been appointed to inquire into the virtues of the South African drugs, with a view to recommending their appearance in the B.P. Addendum.

THE "JIGGER FLEA" for some time past has taken up its abode at and around Delagoa Bay, but it is only of late that it has appeared further south. Unlike the ordinary flea is this species in every way; it is no acrobat to start with, and only attacks the soles of the feet. It bores its way through the skin, and there lays its eggs, with painful results if left unattended. The Cape Government has asked the Medical Council's opinion on the matter, and the Council has sent in its reply, to the effect that every precaution should be taken by the adoption of sanitary and other measures, and that medical officers and practitioners located at the various ports should be asked to give special attention to the subject.

VERMIN IN RAILWAY CARRIAGES.—An interesting paragraph occurs in the report of the General Manager of Railways for 1898. He says that many experiments had been tried with a view to the destruction of vermin in carriages, and Mr. Lounsbury, of the Agricultural Department, has assisted in the matter, with the result that the remedy adopted is hydrocyanic acid, which is thus produced:—

For a saloon carriage about 2 oz. of water are poured into an earthenware saucer; on this is poured 1 oz. of sulphuric acid, and while this mixture is still a few pellets of cyanide of potassium are placed into the liquid. The person using the remedy must make his escape from the carriage before the hydrocyanic acid has had time to evolve, closing the door after him, and, of course, all doors and windows must be closed before the remedy is applied. The acid destroys not only the bugs but their eggs. After two or three hours the windows may be opened, and any vermin concealed in the carriages will be found to be dead.

Of late several Cape chemists have been asked for the stuff by customers, the request being refused, as it is obviously a most dangerous remedy unless in the hands of specially-instructed persons.

PATENT MEDICINES IN RUSSIA.—Permission to import patent medicines into Russia must be obtained from the Russian Medical Council, which considers the application only when a full description of all the ingredients is given. Permission is granted if the medicine does not contain any injurious, poisonous, or perishable substances.

War Notes.

MESSES. R. WHITE & SONS, of Camberwell, have sent to Mrs. Richard Chamberlain's depôt for the sick and wounded at the Cape 3,000 dozen of mineral waters.

OUR CAPE TOWN CORRESPONDENT sends us news of Transvaal pharmacy of a little later date than that which we gave last week. Incidentally he mentions that the Transvaal Government has purchased all available supplies required in warfare in the druggists' business outside their territory, and commandeered those within the Republics. Messrs. Lennon (Limited) had their horses in Johannesburg drawn upon, but were, at the time of writing, allowed to continue working them. The company, having large contracts with the hospitals and Government generally, applied for protection to carry on their business, which was, however, refused. Their Johannesburg store is barricaded up, but business will be continued as long as possible. Many chemists have left their stores, preferring British territory. Some stores have been looted, and those who happened to own horses have had them taken by Boers. Cape banks refuse cheques on their branches in the Republics except for collection at *payees' risk*. In the *Cape Times* is a photograph of Messrs. Lennon's pharmacy in Johannesburg, showing that it is protected with boards in a similar manner to those we illustrated last week.

THE EFFECT OF THE WAR upon London export drug business has been less than may be imagined. We have been making some inquiries about the matter, but were met with a difficulty at the outset, the business-men upon whom we called being of opinion that the *C. & D.* of last week had the latest information. One thing, however, was apparent wherever we called—viz., that there is very general sympathy felt for Johannesburg and Pretoria chemists and their families, many of these chemists being well known to home wholesalers and retailers.

WHOLESALE DRUGGISTS in this country have always held a high opinion of South African chemists generally, and business relations have in most cases been very satisfactory, the mode of payment being usually by bankers' draft payable sixty or ninety days after sight, and in some cases six months' credit is given. At the present time there must be many of these bills maturing, but it is not possible to say how much money is involved in the drug-trade in the Transvaal and Orange Free State (on this point see the report under Company News of Owen Jones & Co.'s business, which fairly shows the nature of the trade done). Until after the war it will be difficult to say whether the bills referred to must be written off as bad debts or not.

KNOWING that Messrs. C. J. Hewlett & Son are one of the London wholesale houses who cultivate a South African business, our representative called at Charlotte Street, E.C., and saw Mr. John C. Hewlett and Mr. E. J. Millard. Mr. Hewlett returned some four months ago from a successful business tour in South Africa, visiting Cape Town, Bulawayo, Kimberley, and other towns, where at that time he found business going on as usual, and although the political situation was talked about the inhabitants little dreamt of the approaching hostilities. At Bulawayo, said Mr. Hewlett, there are four chemists whose shops are fitted up in style quite equal to that of Bond Street. They are Moore & Co., Smart & Copley, the late F. J. Byrne's business (about which a note appears on page 736), and Lennon (Limited). In Kimberley Mr. N. O. Ruffel is one of the largest chemists, having no fewer than four shops in the town. Talking about railway-travelling in these colonies Mr. Hewlett said it took him four days and three nights to reach Bulawayo from Kimberley, the route being part of the Rhodes scheme from Cape to Cairo. "As regards business," said Mr. Hewlett, "we still continue to receive orders from Cape Town and some of the coast towns. There are temporary difficulties in the way of shipment, and often goods are 'shut out' by one steamer and follow on by the succeeding vessel. Our customers, no doubt, being patriotic like ourselves, will be content to receive their goods by intermediate steamers, as the Government appear to have secured all the mail-boats. Freights, however, have not sensibly

appreciated so far." Mr. Hewlett, having been to the Cape on three or four occasions, is well qualified to speak of the future of South Africa, and when asked what was his opinion regarding its prosperity he remarked that when security is again established, and business rights itself, we shall see a great revival in trade throughout the whole of South Africa.

"WE HAVE VERY LITTLE NEWS from the Cape this week—in fact, the mail has not yet arrived," said the export-manager of another wholesale house. "Our representative's last letter from Cape Town was very brief, and he was going to take a holiday for the good of his health. That letter you published last week from a Johannesburg chemist was good reading, and practically told us much more than we knew ourselves."

ANOTHER WHOLESALE HOUSE informed us that they had no reason to complain about their business with Cape Town, although they found much greater difficulty than usual in getting the goods shipped. They had an order in hand for Bulawayo, and they intended to ship it *via* Beira, through Portuguese territory. An indent had also been received from Pietermaritzburg, and it was intended to ship the goods to Durban.

THE CHEMISTS IN THE TRANSVAAL are nearly all Britishers—we cannot say Englishmen, for a goodly proportion are Scotch. However and whenever the war terminates they are almost certain to lose heavily. Already the Boer Government have helped themselves to their stock, and the loss in conducting business at the present moment must be great. The weekly edition of the *Star* for October 7 came to us from one of them on Wednesday, but there is nothing in it of pharmaceutical interest. No local druggist or doctor advertises in it—and there are generally a column or two of their advertisements—but some home advertisements remain—viz., Allenbury's food, Mellin's food, Yorkshire relish, Albert's grasshopper ointment, Pears' soap, Eno's fruit-salt, and Hayman's balsam.

TRANSVAAL REFUGEES FUND.—We find the following names of those connected with the trade who have subscribed to this fund since our last issue:—

	£	s.	d.
The Liebig Extract of Meat Company (Limited)	105	0	0
Messrs. John Oakey & Sons (Limited)	52	10	0

WAR FUND.—To this fund (for the benefit of widows and orphans, sick and wounded, &c.), in addition to the names previously announced, the following have contributed:—

	£	s.	d.
Messrs. Anthony Gibbs & Sons	500	0	0
Messrs. W. H. Cole & Co.	105	0	0
Messrs. MacLaine, Watson & Co.	105	0	0
Messrs. Knowles & Foster	105	0	0
Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome & Co. (Limited)	105	0	0
Messrs. Spencer, Chapman & Messel (Limited)	100	0	0
The Liebig Extract of Meat Company (Limited)	105	0	0
W. Dunn & Co.	105	0	0
T. Whiffen	100	0	0
Sir F. Abel, Bart., K.C.B.	52	10	0
Messrs. Mansell, Hunt, Catty & Co. (Limited)	52	10	0
Messrs. John Oakey & Sons (Limited) ..	52	10	0
Messrs. Carless, Capel & Leonard ...	52	10	0
Messrs. Joseph Thorley (Limited) ...	52	10	0
Messrs. Miles, Druce & Co.	52	10	0
Jeyes' Sanitary Compounds Company (Limited)	26	5	0
Messrs. A. Durant & Co.	25	0	0
Messrs. C. M. & C. Woodhouse	25	0	0
Burt, Boulton & Haywood (Limited) ...	25	0	0
D. Cecil Gibbs	5	0	0

A BULUWAYO CHEMIST writing on October 5 to a London friend says: "A corps is being raised here not for defence, but for attack; if we are threatened with an attack from the Boers—which is not impossible—I shall certainly volunteer as well as every other man in town. All communication with the north is cut off, the Vaal River bridge being blown up. As you may imagine, everything is in a disorganised state, but for the moment, business is good."

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

THE address at the formal opening of the Schools of Pharmacy was delivered at 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin, on October 31. There was a large attendance, amongst the visitors being Dr. J. W. Moore (President of the College of Physicians of Ireland) and the President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Queensland (Mr. Sidney J. Vaughan). The chair was occupied by the President of the Society (Mr. R. J. Downes), and the other members of Council present were the Vice-President (Mr. George Beggs), Mr. Griudley (Treasurer), Professor Tichborne, and Messrs. Wells, Kelly, and Michie.

Letters of apology for non-attendance were read from Sir George Duffey (President of the College of Surgeons of Ireland), Dr. Walter Smith, Messrs. Allen (Lisburn), Fielding (Cork), Phelan (Rathkeale), Moffatt (Belfast), Bennett, McCauley (Down), Conolly (Dundalk), Dr. O'Sullivan (Waterford), and others.

Dr. NINIAN FALKNER then delivered the following address:—

THE EDUCATION OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL CHEMIST.

Dr. FALKNER said the Pharmaceutical Society was a part of their social system which did not appear to be fully understood or appreciated by the public, and it was a fact now regarded with horror and amazement that up to the year 1868 in England, and 1875 in Ireland, the practice of pharmacy was open to all, no restrictions, educational or otherwise, being in force. In 1875 the Pharmacy Act for Ireland was passed, which made the Society responsible not only for the education of qualified dispensers, but also the guardians of the public, in preventing the dispensing of medicines and the sale of poisons by ignorant and unqualified persons. The enormous difficulties which the first and subsequent Councils had to encounter could easily be imagined, as the hitherto unquestioned rights of many influential traders were interfered with; but the Council went on steadily fighting a fierce battle for the interests of the public, the medical profession, and the pharmaceutical chemist. But while engaged in

SUBDUING THEIR ENEMIES

they did not neglect the arts of peace, and from the first had the education of the pharmaceutical chemist in their minds. The Council, having determined to develop the educational equipment of the School, founded a chair in materia medica and botany, to which the Council did him the honour to appoint him as their lecturer, and for which he gave up the examinership in chemistry which he then held. After referring to the assistance he had received from various gentlemen in the teaching of these subjects, Dr. Falkner said the Council had advertised for a lecturer in theoretical chemistry, an appointment which would be of great service to the School. In addition to that he would further recommend, with regard to existing arrangements, that the chair of materia medica and botany be divided, that an appointment be made in each subject independent of the other, and that in future lecturers in physics and practical pharmacy be appointed.

The subject of materia medica and the study of the British Pharmacopœia could only be undertaken by a student who has a good theoretical and practical acquaintance with chemistry, physics, and botany, which strengthens the suggestion that these three subjects should be taught to the student before he commences the study of materia medica.

The term "materia medica" was a comprehensive one, including at least four distinct branches—namely, materia medica proper (the pharmacognosy of Flückiger), pharmacy, pharmacology, and therapeutics. Empirical therapeutic medicines were given to heal disease, because, from previous experience, they were known to have the power of healing; but rational therapeutics consisted in the administration of a drug whose pharmacological action was such as would render it probable that it would move or counteract the existing pathological conditions of the disease. For instance, in a case of lead-poisoning it was known that lead had entered into and remained in certain tissues of the body,

causing a train of symptoms that are well known to every physician. The rational therapist would prescribe a combination of potassium iodide and magnesium sulphate, because he knows that potassium iodide will pervade the system, and coming to the insoluble lead convert it into a soluble double iodide of lead and potassium, which is carried to the intestinal tract, and there meeting with the magnesium sulphate, which acts as a chemical policeman, it is converted into insoluble lead sulphate by double decomposition, and removed.

The lecturer then detailed minutely the scope of the study of pharmacognosy, showing the importance of the proper study of this subject to the welfare of the human race. As an example of the benefit to the community, he instanced the cultivation of the cinchona-tree in India by the British Government, which had reduced the cost of quinine from 18s. per oz. to about 1s. 6d. per oz. in twenty years.

After defining pharmacy and pharmacology Dr. Falkner went on to say that in his lectures he always made the Pharmacopœia his subject, and attempted to approach its study by the light of his knowledge of chemistry, physics, and botany. The oldest ancestor of the B.P. might be taken as the Ebers Papyrus, and in more recent times (the ninth and twelfth centuries) the Arabian work used at Salerno. The first volume used on authority was that of Valerius Cordus at Nuremberg in 1542, and in 1618 the first London Pharmacopœia was printed, of which there were eleven successive editions up to the year 1851. In 1699 the first Edinburgh Pharmacopœia was published, and that of Dublin in 1807. As there were many poisonous preparations of the same name, but differing in strength, it became obviously necessary to have a standard work for the three kingdoms, and in 1858 the Medical Act was passed and the first British Pharmacopœia was published. Criticism of that book would not be in place there, but it was to be hoped that some day there would be an International Pharmacopœia, subject to revision at suitable terms.

In addition to the appointment of lecturers the Council of the Society had founded a medal, which was given to the best candidate who presented himself for examination during the year, and he hoped that further development in the direction of prizes might be made in the near future. The Council, by developing the teaching at their School, would free themselves from the criticism which had been made concerning some of the institutions of the country—viz., that the standard of examination was too high and the standard of education too low. That, if true, was obviously a disadvantage to the student. Some might, perhaps, object to the additional expense which the lectures he recommended would entail, but he believed the fees were fairly within the scope of any chemist's assistant, and he assured them that the more highly educated the public knew the pharmaceutical chemist to be, the more readily would they pay the prices that skilled and scientific labour demanded. There was, however, another equally important consideration in the education of the pharmaceutical chemist—namely, that of preliminary education—and although the efforts of the Society tend towards the professional side of the question it should be prominently borne in mind that the everyday work of the pharmaceutical chemist is

ESSENTIALLY COMMERCIAL IN ITS NATURE,

and that commercial education should have an equal consideration with the scientific. Until the cash-system becomes universal and compulsory, the keeping, checking, and furnishing of accounts and the consideration of profit and loss and balance sheets, should be the primary education of every business which depends upon the interchange of goods for cash. The four years' compulsory attendance in the shop should supply this need to a large extent, and proper attention should be given to details such as stockkeeping, cleanliness, labelling, and the antiseptic washing of measures, bottles, and apparatus. He did not altogether share the rather dismal views that the President appeared to take of the prospects of pharmaceutical chemistry. He believed there was no training that developed the resources of a man more than that of practical pharmacy. Some of the most distinguished men of the present day commenced life with no better chances than any pharmaceutical student in that room; and he believed that in that country there were

many places in which chemists were wanted, and where they would make comfortable livings. Moreover, as time went on the office of compounders under the Local Government Act would be filled by licentiates of the Society.

Besides the scientific and commercial attributes which are of necessity required for success, the advice of two great men might be remembered with advantage. Tennyson said "Self-knowledge, self-reverence, self-control—these three alone raise men to sovereign power"; and Shakespeare, "Be courteous and courteous and true preferment shall await upon you." "Let your employer's interest always be your first care," continued the doctor; "be absolutely punctual in your attendance to duty; never guess at any weight or measure; learn the doses of the poisons at once, and constantly revise your knowledge of them. Read five pages of the British Pharmacopoeia every day, with your chemistry and botany beside you, and, no matter how hard pressed with work you are, do not lose your temper; if you follow on these lines I will promise you that you will not only pass your examination with credit, but also succeed in the path through life which you have adopted." When he was an apprentice nearly twenty-five years ago there was a tablet hung in his bedroom with the following good advice, "Whisky, theatres, and gambling to be avoided." That was the advice of his master long ago, but he was so convinced of the moral improvement that had taken place generally amongst the young men of Dublin that he would not venture to offer such an antiquated maxim to them. Referring to a correspondence which appeared in some of the papers recently, upon the subject of lady dispensers, he desired to express his opinion that the work of pharmacy was a very suitable occupation for women who are sufficiently strong to undertake it, and the ladies who had been attending the instruction in the Society's School were very highly-qualified pharmacists in whom the public might place entire confidence.

The relation of the pharmaceutical chemist to the public was, he feared, not altogether to the advantage of the former, who was heavily handicapped by not being able to carry the third-class passenger. The great bulk of the people in that country were supplied by the Poor-law system with medicine and medical requisites, and a large portion of the community were provided for by a practitioner who furnishes medical advice and medicine at a very moderate charge. That was a matter which was worthy of the consideration of all—namely, how could the chemists of the country fairly direct a portion of the

THIRD-CLASS TRAFFIC

in medicines into their business? Neither doctors nor chemists could shut their eyes to facts that proclaim the needs of the people; but he must leave it to a more comprehensive mind to adjust that grave difficulty, and he feared that although the Utopia for both doctor and chemist would be the non-existence of the practitioner who supplied medicine, up to the present it could not well be obtainable. The relations of the Colleges of Surgeons and Physicians and the Pharmaceutical Society were of a friendly and confidential character, but there was one important matter which he thought might be set right by the joint action of these three bodies. A restriction should be put upon the repetition of a prescription which was not initialled by the medical practitioner when it contained any poison or drug which might become a habit and an injury to the patient. That such a restriction should be made was obvious. There were few of them who had not seen at some time or other the abuse of a medicine which had been given for a certain purpose and which was never intended by the physician who prescribed it to be repeated.

The VICE-PRESIDENT (Mr. Beggs), as Chairman of the School Committee, proposed a vote of thanks to the lecturer.

Mr. KELLY, in seconding, said the Society's schools had not been in existence more than ten years, yet their licentiates had made their mark in the College of Surgeons, the College of Science, the Army examinations, and, in fact, wherever they went.

The PRESIDENT likewise bore testimony to the zeal and ability of Dr. Falkiner. There was one point in Dr. Falkiner's address which he (the President) desired to emphasise—namely, the necessity of not losing sight of the commercial side of the student's education. It ought to be

borne in mind that the Society's licence was one to keep open shop, and that they never could get rid of the business side of their profession. Some students might, of course, fly off at a professional tangent, but the business of the pharmaceutical chemist was essentially in a shop, and was to that extent commercial in its character.

A cordial round of applause was thereupon awarded to the lecturer.

The silver medal of the Society was then presented by Dr. MOORE, President of the College of Physicians, to Mr. W. G. Stratton. The successful prize-winner obtained 236½ out of a possible 300.

The PRESIDENT then introduced Mr. S. J. Vaughan to the meeting. Mr. VAUGHAN said that in Queensland their Government was closely in touch with the pharmaceutical bodies of the Colony—so much so that their Pharmacy College received a subsidy of 100 per cent. of its revenue. He did not know how they stood in Great Britain as regarded the Government, or whether the colleges of pharmacy here were subsidised by it; but in Queensland they received every consideration from their Government.

Wills of Deceased Chemists.

BLACKMORE.—At Somerset House the gross estate of Mr. Peter Ludgate Blackmore, chemist and druggist, Turner's Hill, Chesham, who died on May 29 last, is sworn for probate at 3,037l. 15s. 2d., the net personalty being entered at 2,826l. 18s. 4d. The testator's executors are his widow and Mr. Francis Hampton, 5 Ashby Road, Essex Road, Islington.

BUTLER.—At the Local Probate Registry the will of Mr. Samuel Butler, chemist and druggist, 18 Ashgrove Road, Redland, Bristol, who died on June 18 last, has been proved, with a codicil, by Messrs. James and Henry Grace, accountants, 24 Clare Street, Bristol, by whom the testator's estate was sworn at 15,337l. 13s. 11d., of which 12,581l. 1s. 11d. is net personalty.

HARMER.—The will of Mr. Anthony D. Harmer, chemist and druggist, Eastbourne, Sussex, who died on January 22, has been proved by Mr. James D. Harmer, chemist and druggist, Windsor, a son of the testator, whose estate was sworn at 135l. 6s. 6d.

JACKSON.—The will of Mr. Thos. Jackson, pharmaceutical chemist, 43 Great Ducie Street, and 2 New Bridge Street, Strangeways, Lancashire, who died on March 18 last, has been proved by Mr. Franklin Jackson and Mr. Urban A. Jackson, pharmaceutical chemist, sons of the testator, whose estate is sworn at 4,254l. 3s. 4d.

SHELLEY.—The will of the late Mr. Henry Shelley, chemist and druggist, 20 King Street, Twickenham, who died on March 11 last, has been proved at Somerset House by Mrs. M. W. Shellsy, widow and sole executrix of the testator, whose estate was sworn at 1,549l. 18s. 11d., of which 1,378l. 9s. 11d. is net personalty.

STEPHENS.—At the Principal Probate Registry, Somerset House, the estate of the late Mr. John Harris Stephens, chemist, druggist, and dentist, 16 Buckwell Street, Plymouth, has been sworn at 962l. 3s. 7d. by Mr. William Thomas, the executor of the deceased.

TAYLOR.—The will of Mr. E. B. Taylor, chemist and druggist, Whitworth Road, Rochdale, who died on March 25 last, has been proved by Mrs. B. H. Taylor, the widow, Mr. Joseph Butterworth, 8 Charleston Street, and Mr. George Handley, 212 Hufin Road, all of Rochdale, by whom the testator's estate was sworn at 5,365l. 2s. 4d., of which 1,007l. 2s. 6d. is net personalty.

THOMAS.—The widow of the late Mr. W. J. Thomas, chemist and druggist, Wrexham, has proved his will in London, as executrix. The testator's estate was sworn at 109l.

WARD.—The will of the late Mr. W. W. Ward, chemist and druggist, 27 Baxtergate, Whitby, has been proved by Mr. W. H. Sandwith, chemist and druggist, Bracknell, Berks, and Mr. George Thompson, the executors of the testator, whose estate is sworn at 4,488l. 6s. 1d.

Marriage.

STEWART—WHITE.—On October 24, at the Wesley Chapel, High Street, West Bromwich, by the Rev. Josiah Mee, Henry Clarke Stewart, chemist and druggist, Eltham, to Mary Jane White (Brownie), second daughter of the late Mr. W. White, of West Bromwich.

Deaths.

FREUDENTHEIL.—On October 23, at "Netherwood," 86 Palace Road, Tulse Hill, Sarah Spauls, widow of the late Mr. G. A. Freudentheil, drug merchant, Mincing Lane, E.C. Aged 88.

PICKARD.—At Smallburg, near Norwich, on October 28, Mr. Edward Pickard. Aged 81. Deceased gentleman was born at Haskelm, and after studying chemistry at Diss he established himself at Saxmundham. In 1845 he began experiments in the manufacture of artificial manure, and shared with Sir J. B. Lawes the distinction of having revealed the value of artificial fertilisers and bringing them into general use. In the course of time his manure business increased so much that branches were established at Dublin, Londonderry, and in Germany. Mr. Pickard was the first among artificial-manure manufacturers to make his own sulphuric acid.

RIDGLEY.—On October 19, Mr. Edward Barrance Ridgley, chemist and druggist, Ramsey, Hunts. Aged 70.

SCHMITS.—On October 17, at St. Blasien (Black Forest), Germany, Mr. Alfred Schmits, of Cologne. Aged 41. Mr. Schmits was agent for several methylators and distillers in London, and was a successful business man. The agencies will be carried on by his mother, Mme. Friedr. Aug. Schmits, with Herr Alexander von Cotzhausen as manager.

WILLIAMS.—At The Caxtons, Miskin Road, Dartford, on October 29, Mr. William Lloyd Williams, F.I.C., F.C.S., pharmaceutical chemist, assistant manager of Messrs. Burroughs, Wellcome & Co.'s works at Dartford. Aged 38. More than a month ago we referred to the precarious illness from which Mr. Williams suffered, and which unhappily has



terminated fatally. Few of the younger generation of pharmacists had so many friends in the trade as Lloyd Williams, for few had the wide range of gifts that he possessed. Pharmacy, science, and literature were equally attractive to him, and he had given high promise of achievement in each—had, indeed, made his name known as that of a careful investigator—when the nominal management of the Dartford factory fell to his lot, his weak health alone preventing his appointment as titular manager.

In that capacity he developed business gifts of an unexpectedly high order. Mr. Williams was born at Nutfield, in Surrey, and was educated at Hawarden Grammar School, where he did well. It was one of his greatest pleasures to recall that the last prizes he received at school were handed to him by Mr. W. E. Gladstone; indeed, it was through Mr. Gladstone's influence that his love for books was engendered. After his apprenticeship in Wrexham, and service elsewhere, Mr. Williams entered the School of Pharmacy in the 1882-3 session, and took honours in all his classes, finishing with the Major certificate and the Council silver medal—the highest award of the year. He then went to Hyères as assistant to the late Mr. Powell, and while there he made the acquaintance of Robert Louis Stevenson, who was a constant visitor at Mr. Powell's pharmacy. That acquaintance enabled him to write a delicately worded appreciation of Stevenson for *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* when that gifted writer died in Samoa. Returning to this country, Mr. Williams took situations in Bristol and Bournemouth, then came on to London as an analyst to Mr. John Moss. In 1887 he entered the Finsbury Technical College, with a view to studying for the Associateship of the Institute of Chemistry, and at the same time got a bench in the Pharmaceutical Research Laboratory, in which he worked with Professor Dunstan on the metameric amyl nitrites and other subjects. He duly became an A.I.C., and was in 1892 elected to the Fellowship of the Institute. It was in 1890 that he entered the employment of Burroughs, Wellcome & Co. in a minor position, and by sterling merit and ardent devotion to his duties won himself up step by step to the important position which he held at his death. His employers and his colleagues alike recognised that he was not merely a clever chemist and an accomplished pharmacist, but a man of affairs, clear-headed, practical, zealous, and untiring. He was a disciplinarian of a high order, but his natural politeness and kindly dignity influenced those working with him, and won their respect and willing co-operation. Mr. Williams early associated himself with the Chemists' Assistants' Association, of which he became Secretary and President and was a hard-working member. He made frequent contributions to the British Pharmaceutical Conference and kept pace well with the scientific progress of the day. We feel a personal loss through Mr. Williams's death, for until his work became so arduous at Dartford he was a frequent contributor to our columns, and everything that he wrote displayed literary culture and a fine gift of phrasing. Literary subjects had latterly absorbed his leisure, and he had collected more than the nucleus of a good library. He seldom turned up at a meeting in Burlington House without some new "find" in his pocket, and in those pleasant after-meetings which a few pharmaceuticals have together books were generally the topic of his talk. To many his death is a personal loss, and much sympathy is felt for his devoted wife and his two children. The funeral took place at Dartford on Thursday, a funeral service, attended by his firm's staff and workers and many friends, being held in the Parish Church, the Vicar and the Rev. Mr. Torre officiating.

New Books.

Any book named in this list can be supplied post-free to any part of the world on receipt of the published price by the Publisher of *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST*, 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

Collins, H. F. *Metallurgy of Lead and Silver*. Part I.: Lead. Ed. by Sir W. C. Roberts-Austen. Illus. 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ × 5 $\frac{1}{2}$. Pp. 384. 16s. (Griffin.)

Edser, E. *Heat; for Advanced Students*. 7 × 4 $\frac{1}{2}$. Pp. 478. 4s. 6d. (Macmillan.)

Gregory, R. A., and Simmons, A. T. *Experimental Science. Physiography (Section 1): Elementary Course of Physics and Chemistry, adapted to Syllabus of Science and Art Department*. 7 × 4 $\frac{1}{2}$. Pp. 340. 2s. 6d. (Macmillan.)

Jenner Institute of Preventive Medicine Transactions. 2nd series. 8vo. 6s. net. (Macmillan.)

MacCallum, A. I. *Common Ailments and Diseases of Farm stock*. 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ × 5 $\frac{1}{2}$. Pp. 56. 1s. 6d. (Livingstone.)

Personalities.

MR. HAROLD HOARE, chemist, Derby, has been appointed lecturer in materia medica at the Derby Municipal Technical College.

MR. J. S. ROSS has left Christchurch, N.Z., to join the firm of Messrs. S. Maw, Son & Thompson, Aldersgate Street, London.

COUNCILLOR T. C. LAMB, chemist and druggist, Chatham, has presented a hydraulic engine, for blowing the organ, to the Ebenezer Congregational Church.

MR. E. NORTON GRIMWADE AND MRS. GRIMWADE are now in Canada, on their way home to Australia. They will leave Vancouver on November 17 for Sydney.

MR. W. S. COOPER, chemist and druggist, Kingston Hill, has resigned his seat on Kingston-on-Thames Town Council, to which he was elected in March, 1898.

ALDERMAN J. BOWER, chemist-mayor of Macclesfield, signalled the close of his year of office by entertaining 322 inmates of the workhouse to a tea and entertainment.

THE Mayor of Worcester (Mr. J. A. Steward, chemist and druggist), at the sitting of the Worcester City Bench on October 23, was presented with a pair of white gloves, there being no court business to transact.

MR. T. S. BARRIE, the writer of the article "What is Rose water B.P.?" in our last issue (page 771), is one of the principals of the West of Scotland College of Pharmacy, and is not connected with the Glasgow School of Pharmacy, as we there stated.

AT the Congregational Sunday School, Castle Street, Exeter, on October 29, Mr. Alderman Henry Gadd, J.P. (Messrs. Evans, Gadd & Co., wholesale chemists, Exeter and Bristol), was presented with an illuminated scroll from the past and present teachers and officers of the school. Mr. Gadd has been twenty-five years superintendent of the school.

A CHEMIST'S JUBILEE.—Mr. R. H. Lowe, chemist and druggist, Bilston Street, Wolverhampton, has just attained his jubilee as a tradesman of the borough. On October 28, fifty years ago, Mr. Lowe first commenced business in the town. He is also one of the oldest members of the Wolverhampton Board of Guardians, having occupied a seat on that Board for very many years.

ANOTHER chemist figures in this month's *Sub-postmaster*. This is Mr. W. K. Inglis, sub-postmaster of Delph, Oldham, who first saw the light at Stockton-on-Tees in 1855, and passed the Minor twenty-two years later. With his Minor



certificate he went as an assistant to one of the leading firms in Calcutta, going "up-country" later to Simla, Lahore, and Ambala. His health broke down and he returned home and commenced business as a chemist at Delph, where he has since been elected a member of the Saddleworth Board of Guardians and also of the local Rural Council. Four years ago he was appointed sub-postmaster at Delph, and afterwards united with Mr. Cussons, of Ossett, and Mr. Ranns, of Wakefield, in their efforts to better the sub-postmasters' position. He prepared the sub-postmasters' guarantee-scheme, and gave evidence to the Royal Commission of the Post-Office. He has also been elected a Vice-President of the Sub-postmasters' Federation, and is Secretary of the S.P.M. Mutual Guarantee Association.

A LARGE meeting of the citizens of Norwich, together with many inhabitants of the county of Norfolk, who had

subscribed for the painting of the portrait of the late Mr. Jeremiah James Colman, assembled in St. Andrew's Hill, Norwich, on October 30 under the presidency of the Mayor, to witness the ceremony of presenting the picture to the corporation. The portrait, which was the work of Mr. Herkomer, R.A., was unveiled by Sir Harry Ballard.

MR. S. OLEAVER, of Leicester, chemist and druggist, is the Worshipful Master elect of the St. Peter's Lodge of Freemasons, Market Harborough. Mr. Oleaver is a Leicester chemist in business in Wharf Street, and is a member of committee of the local Chemists' Social Union. His father was one of the oldest and most esteemed Masons, and his brother is the present Senior Warden of St. Peter's Lodge, and will in due course occupy the chair. Two members of the trade in Leicester have now occupied positions as W.M.'s, the other gentleman being Mr. Joseph Young, pharmaceutical chemist, of Gallow Tree Gate.

Australasian News.

Chiefly from "The Chemist and Druggist of Australasia" for September, 1899, of which copies may be obtained from the Publisher, 42 Cannon Street, E.C. at 6d. each.

NEWLY-FITTED.—Mr. H. Fowles, Unley Road, Semaphore, Adelaide, has refitted his shop. The fittings were supplied by Messrs. P. Josephs & Son, Old Street, City Road, E.C.

THE INTERCOLONIAL MEDICAL CONFERENCE OF AUSTRALASIA opened its fifth session on September 18, when about eighty-two members were present. The President is Dr. John Thomson, who delivered his presidential address on the subject of the medical craft in the Queen's reign. One section referred to the want of official recognition and protection for the medical profession.

ANDERSON MANUFACTURING COMPANY (LIMITED).—Application has been made in Melbourne for the registration of this company with a capital of 5,000*l.* to acquire from Blanche H. Anderson and Elizabeth L. McKellan (Anderson & Co., Melbourne), the business of manufacturers of soluble phenyle and other disinfectants, iuks, oils, Fuller's earth, &c., the purchase price being 300*l.* and 80 5*l.* shares in the company.

PROTECTING PROFITS.—The success that has attended the efforts of the P.A.T.A. in England has inspired Mr. W. G. Hearne, of Geelong, to attempt a similar scheme in Australia. He advertises a series of thirty-six medicines, four applications, eight ointments, six lotions, and eleven other preparations, and has just circulated to the chemists a letter fixing the wholesale and retail prices and discounts of his medicines, and the condition that the fixed prices will be adhered to. Bayers of 5*l.* parcels, who do not at first trade on the larger scale, will upon application, and having conformed to the conditions of sale, have the extra discount allowed at the end of the year, according to the quantity bought during the year. The attempt is being watched with great interest.

GOLDFIELDS HOSPITALS.—The West Australian branch of the British Medical Association has communicated to the *Australasian Medical Journal* a letter on the method of administration of hospitals on the goldfields in that colony. These are controlled by local committees, and obtain funds for maintenance by (a) charitable donations, (b) weekly subscriptions of 6*d.*, 9*d.*, and 1*s.* from miners and other working men, (c) a subsidy from the Government of pound for pound of the amount thus raised. The system leads to much abuse; for instance, a comparatively well-to-do man is admitted as an in-patient, and remains in the hospital for four weeks. He is stated by the local committee to be indigent, therefore the Government pays for him, at the rate of 2*l.* 10*s.* a week. On leaving the hospital, he makes a donation of, say, 10*l.* to the funds of the hospital. The Government at the end of the year pays the hospital a subsidy of the same amount, so that for this patient the local committee receives 10*l.* in weekly pay, 10*l.* donation, and 10*l.* subsidy, or 30*l.*

DURING a discussion in the *Chem. Zeit.* as to the presence of barium in vegetable powders, it was stated that cayenne occasionally contains the metal because it is sometimes adulterated with a barium ponceau lake for the purpose of giving it a brilliant fiery colour.

Winter Session.

The Editor will be obliged if Secretaries of Associations will send him copies of their programmes for the session.

Advance notices of the meetings to be held are inserted under "Coming Events." Secretaries are requested to send such notices not later than Wednesdays of the weeks before the meetings are to be held.

Society of Chemical Industry.

NOTTINGHAM SECTION.

THE first meeting of the present session was held on October 25, at University College, Nottingham, Dr. Stanley Kipping, F.R.S., in the chair.

Mr. J. T. WOOD (Hon. Secretary) read a paper entitled

FURTHER NOTES ON THE ACTION OF DUNG BATE,

which, whilst of special interest to those engaged in the tanning-industry, also contained much to attract the attention of brewers and others having to do with fermentative processes. In the course of the paper the author summarised his experiments conducted with a view to producing an artificial "bate." The author has been led to the conviction "that mixed cultures of suitable bacteria possess the required action, whereas pure cultures do not." An examination of a certain infusion possessing the desired action on skins also disclosed that the bacteria contained in the solution consisted practically of only two species. From the observed facts Mr. Wood thinks it evident that the growth of the bacteria is a symbiotic one—separately they exert little or no action, whereas used together the action is most remarkable.

Mr. Wood described also the Carlsberg vessel for the cultivation of bacteria on an industrial scale (see THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, June 10, 1899, page 919), and gave the results of his study of the influence of the solid matter in these solutions, which led to the discovery that the addition of kaolin to the artificial "bate" greatly increased its activity. He concluded:—"It will be seen that it is now quite possible to produce an artificial dung bate by producing the required enzymes by fermentation, and then adding to them the amine compounds. The chief difficulty in its practical application in the tannery is the question of cost. If this can be overcome, and efforts are being made to overcome it, there is no doubt that the tanners of the next generation will be supplied with a bate which will do the same work as the dung bate, and which will have a definite and uniform composition and properties, and a regular and certain action."

DISCUSSION.

The CHAIRMAN said that, as far as he had gathered, this was the first time an approach had been made to the production of these "bate" solutions artificially. Was there any similarity between this process and the fermentation of starch, in which two enzymes were engaged, the action of the one following upon that of the other?—the starch being first converted into diastase and then the yeast enzyme coming into action—two distinct chemical steps.

Mr. WOOD answered he did not consider the two cases similar. In the bating-process the ferments acted together.

Mr. GOLDING—whose assistance in the production of the pure cultures Mr. Wood acknowledged—said the amount of oxygen that is allowed to have access to the culture greatly modifies its character.

Dr. SUDBOROUGH suggested the possibility of taking still another step in advance by isolating the enzymes themselves and working simply with their extracts.

Mr. WOOD, in reply, said there was much yet to be learnt from a scientific point of view in these matters. It seemed to him the ferments in the bating-process acted concurrently—there was a symbiosis of the organisms. He was led to the introduction of solid matter into the solution after finding that on filtering the natural bate the filtrate had no action on the skin—it did not bate. The first seemingly suitable solid body at hand happened to be kaolin, but he was now using infusional earth. He used about 5 grammes to

the litre. As much as 5,000 gals. at a time had been made of these infusions, containing 5 per cent. of the inoculating-fluid. Dr. Sudborough's suggestion that the enzymes themselves should be used was very good, but the cost would certainly be prohibitive.

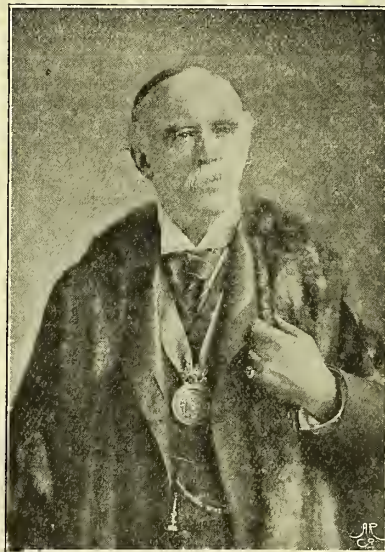
The Optical Society.

A MEETING of this Society was held on October 26, at 7 Crane Court, E.C. The new headquarters of the Society are in the building of the Royal Scottish Corporation, the hall in which the meetings are held being of quite a baronial character. There were about seventy present. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, the PRESIDENT (Mr. W. H. E. Thornthwaite) delivered his

INAUGURAL ADDRESS,

which he said he would make as short as possible, as they had a lot of work before them in passing the rules of the Society.

In the course of the address Mr. Thornthwaite said they did not yet know what was the real nature of light, though of the two theories—the corpuscular and the undulatory—the latter was the one at present in favour. The properties of light had been investigated from



MR. W. H. E. THORNTHWAITES F.R.A.S.

the earliest times, the laws of reflection receiving attention before the laws of refraction. Alhazen, the Arabian philosopher, who lived at the time of the Norman Conquest, in his optical treatise was the first to give an anatomical description of the eye. From the sixteenth century the progress of optics was rapid, and among those who contributed to it the speaker especially mentioned Roger Bacon, said to have invented convex spectacles, Kepler and Galileo, Huyghens, the discoverer of polarisation, and Cassini, Newton, La Place, and Biot, the great supporters of the corpuscular theory. Romer, who discovered his method of demonstrating the velocity of light in 1676; Bradley, who in 1728 advanced the aberration theory of light; Fizeau, who discovered the theory of diffraction; Young, whose undulatory theory still holds good; Foucault, Brewster, Airy, who first corrected astigmatism, down to the present-day investigators, Sir Wm. Crookes, Lord Rayleigh, and Professor Silvanus Thompson, were all men who have taken a leading part in advancing the application of optical science.

The President then spoke briefly of the various optical instruments, taking those figured on the Spectacle-makers' diploma as a guide. The microscope, telescope, sextant, spectroscope, and radiometer were mentioned; the last, although not of practical value, had at least demonstrated that light could be converted into motion. The address concluded with wishes for the development of the Optical

Society, and a hope that the members, following in the steps of the men mentioned in the course of the address, would undertake original work and lay the results before the Society for discussion. (Hear, hear.)

RULES OF THE SOCIETY.

The draft rules were then discussed *seriatim*, and several alterations were made before they were finally adopted by the meeting. The chief discussion took place on that part of Rule 10 in which the list of suggested councillors is left to the Council to nominate. It was thought that it would be better to entrust the nominations to the members. A motion to the latter effect was put, for which 24 votes were given, whilst against it 26 votes were recorded, these including most of the councillors who were present. As one of the rules imposed the payment of subscriptions in January, the question was raised of the unfairness of asking those members who paid a year's subscription in June to pay again in January. The PRESIDENT said the Society wanted money; but it was agreed that the question should come up again at the next meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Mr. Cocks, N.S.W., who was elected a councillor at the last meeting, wrote asking that his name be still kept on the list of councillors, although he would be unable to be present at any of the meetings. It was decided to leave the name on for the present.

Gifts of books for the library were announced from the proprietors of the *Optician* and the *Keystone*.

The proceedings closed with votes of thanks.

Midland Chemists' Assistants' Association.

THE winter session of the above Association was opened at the Exchange Rooms, Birmingham, on October 23, when Mr. A. W. Gerrard, Oldbury, delivered an address on

PHARMACEUTICAL EDUCATION.

Mr. F. A. Spear (the President) was in the chair, and there was a good attendance.

Mr. GERRARD said it was a most promising sign of the times that the young pharmacists of a great industrial centre like Birmingham should unite, determined to support each other, as well as kindred Associations, on all topics—educational, political, social, or humane—which might exercise a most beneficial influence on the future of their calling. He could not, he continued, urge too strongly the advantages which a good education afforded as a means of betterment. It was the pharmacists' salvation, and was unmistakably the surest foundation on which to gain the confidence of the public, the medical profession, and the support of Parliament. There was a brighter outlook for pharmacy to-day by the fact that the old Preliminary examination had had notice to quit. The amount of knowledge it required for a pass had allowed hundreds of young men to squeeze themselves into a calling for which they were totally unfitted. The new examination could only be beneficial. The more extended knowledge it required, especially of mathematics, would be of the greatest assistance to students. Few excuses could be urged with respect to the want of facilities for obtaining higher education. Schools and classes were provided in every good-sized town, at moderate fees, where such education could be pursued. No youth of average intelligence who desired to be a pharmacist need fear the ideal which was to test his intellectual power. It was cheering to feel that this new and better education must inevitably raise the tone of pharmacy, and materially strengthen their claim to a professional status. (Applause.)

Discussing the apprenticeship period, Mr. Gerrard expressed himself as strongly opposed to the present system, which he described as practically no system at all. The usual

APPRENTICESHIP WAS A WASTE OF YEARS,

at an age, too, when the brain was receptive, and required mental practice. One of his own sons was likely to be trained as a pharmacist, but his training would be systematic, and must continue immediately after his Preliminary. Its main features would comprise science, modern languages, and commerce. There must be no waste of four

or five precious years; each link of the chain must be fitted in its proper order. His idea was to substitute a curriculum for apprenticeship—a curriculum in which pharmacy must have a large share. The course of instruction which commended itself to him should, at least, extend over three years, commencing with pupillage to a qualified pharmacist, in a recognised pharmacy school or institution. The first six months might well be occupied in the pharmacy, so as to bring the youth in touch with the routine of his calling. A large share of his knowledge of *materia medica* was obtained whilst cleaning a bottle or dusting a drawer. Such duties also helped to subdue the too elevated notion of work which often arose in the minds of the young. A knowledge of the weights and measures they employed should now be thoroughly ground in—both the metrical and the British systems—with their relationships. Learning the best methods of cleaning bottles, utensils, and apparatus well repaid the time and trouble.

Some reading on the subject of pharmacy should first be indulged in, and a notebook kept defining the various processes. In the way of books, Proctor's Pharmacy was good, also the large work of Remington. The latter would be found valuable in after-years for reference. After three months of this work, some of the simple official preparations might be made, such as would illustrate the uses of solvents, distillation, precipitation, filtration, percolation, infusion, and decoction. The apparatus required for these was simple, and one hour a day was ample for a demonstration.

After six months of such training the curriculum proper should commence, and the second period ought to occupy at least nine months, spent in attending lectures and classes in physics, chemistry, and botany, at a well-equipped and recognised school. A day a week at this period might well be devoted to pharmaceutical manipulations, showing the co-relationship of the science subjects and pharmacy. *Materia medica*, so far as it applied to the Minor, demanded attention, but, as commonly learnt, it was almost entirely a feat of memory. It was intermingled with so much pharmacy that it perhaps mattered little at what period of the curriculum its dry details are absorbed.

At the end of the first nine months' lectures the student should be admitted to an examination on the subjects of his teaching. This examination might be called the First Minor, the passing of which gives no qualification, but relieves the student of some of the elementary work now comprised in the Minor. The result of such an arrangement would be equivalent to

DIVIDING THE MINOR

into two parts—a useful and much needed reform. Speaking as an old examiner, he held that seven subjects in one day's examination was too severe an ordeal. It was an anomaly, being a positive encouragement to cram. Another advantage of a halfway examination was an earlier awakening of interest in work. If the student won his first goal he was stimulated and encouraged to go on. In nearly all professions there was an intermediate examination, marking a period for suitably testing a student's progress.

The student having passed his First Minor, a further six months might be devoted to work in the pharmacy, where, fortified with a knowledge of the science subjects, work became easier. At this period galeucal pharmacy, prescription-reading, and dispensing should have constant attention. It was not too much to ask that the pupil be allowed to dispense, label, and finish at least six typical prescriptions a day. Some time should be devoted to the manufacture of such galenicals as might be conveniently made. A share of time should also be given to the routine duties of the establishment, so as to get a grasp of the very necessary commercial side of their calling. *Materia medica* must still be kept green, and to assist in its study every pharmacist who took pupils ought to possess a good cabinet of specimens. The histological knowledge gained in the botanical course could then be well applied to further the study of *materia medica*, providing at the same time practice with the microscope.

The second period of the curriculum proper, or third year of pupillage, should extend over another nine months of lectures and classes on general chemistry, with a good deal of analytical work included. As organic chemistry had become so important, it must have considerable attention. Advanced lectures and classes on *materia medica* and phar

macy must be continued, with practical work on both subjects. As regards pharmacy, as much as possible on the manufacturing side ought to be practically done—first, to encourage the home-made product; and, second, to provide a class of trained men competent to take the positions as manufacturers on their own account or in laboratories.

A good deal of work and time had to be devoted to prescription-reading and general dispensing. With regard to the latter the most rigid rules of accuracy, cleanliness, and neatness ought to be observed. At the end of the last year of the curriculum the student should enter for the Qualifying examination. Whether the examination be successfully passed or not, there would be several months still to run, during which period loyal service ought to be given to the principal, who, they might assume, had been helping and encouraging his pupil. Such a course as he had depicted might be faulty in detail, but he believed it to be sound in principle, and would in three years produce

A VASTLY SUPERIOR MAN

to that of the four or five years' apprenticeship system. And it would work out but little more costly than the one now commonly pursued, for the saving of time and the lessening of risks of failure were factors of real value.

It might be objected that this curriculum was all profession, with no business in it. But, after all, profession was just what pharmacy needed to be, and must be. That was why they had a compulsory examination, and that was why they needed a compulsory curriculum. And, besides, there was business in it—most emphatically there was business in knowledge, and it had good market value.

Mr. Gerrard concluded with a reference to the forthcoming Birmingham University, where for the first time commerce would take its place side by side with science and art. Already the authorities of Mason College had approached the pharmacists of the midland counties to ascertain what measure of support they might expect if they made provision for pharmaceutical education, as well as establishing a degree of pharmacy. Such an opening demanded their strongest support, and he hoped every member of their Association would urge it forward, and not allow the opportunity to be lost. (Applause.)

Mr. H. S. LAWTON, while approving of the idea of the curriculum sketched in Mr. Gerrard's paper, thought it was aiming rather high, while Mr. E. OSBORNE and Mr. G. H. BRUNT spoke in terms of approval of the paper.

Chemists' Assistants' Association.

At the meeting held at 73 Newman Street, W., on October 26, Mr. J. C. Hyslop, gave an address on

"ETHICS AS APPLIED TO PHARMACY."

There was not a large number of members present, and this was no doubt owing to the wretched weather which prevailed. After the coffee and smoke which precedes at these meetings the general business of the evening, the chair was taken by Mr. Gamble (President) at 9.15, there being then eighteen members present.

Mr. HYSLOP's address began with a lucid historical *résumé* dealing with ethics generally; then he dealt with the duties of pharmacists under three heads as follows: (1) Duties to the public—i.e., customers; (2) duty to the medical man; (3) duty to schoolmates. Forgetfulness of duties to the public is at the root of most failures in pharmacy, he considered. The aggregate of the demands upon one's duties varies with locality. Very often in business a man's courage began to fail; he had not something his neighbour required; he had several customers in his shop at one time, and a number of small articles to supply. These he had to weigh in a nervous state, feeling that all eyes were on him; and perhaps at the same time he was kept busy without seeing any relative pecuniary increase in his business. His neighbour's business might be improving, while he himself was losing ground. That was because he had not attended to the proper morale of his business. Then in his mind he began to find excuses: he might lay the blame on his assistant—(laughter)—sometimes upon the Pharmaceutical Society. (Laughter) Poor fellow!

his case must be worse than that of Job, or he must have committed the sin that Job would have done if he had followed his wife's advice. (Loud laughter.) A pharmacist in business, in order to have success, should keep

A SUFFICIENT STORE,

methodically arranged so as to be able to supply goods at a moment's notice day or night. Everything in daily request should be as neatly wrapped as possible and well stocked, ready for the purchaser in an instant. He might blame his assistants certainly, but in nine cases out of ten he himself had never set them a good example. That same assistant, when he went into business, also had an assistant, and made a scapegoat of him in like manner. He thought most of those who advertised for assistants in the trade-journals really needed managers to look after their business for them. Employer and employed were really groaning beneath punishment accompanying duties neglected. There was a certain branch of duty the onus of which lay heavy upon the chemist and druggist. Their duties to the public demanded that they supplied medicaments and the various surgical appliances necessary to cure all the disorders diagnosed by medical men. Many of those disorders had their origin in vice—that was not their business—but their business was not to sell, at any profit or at any cost, appliances that were used only by the vicious for the purpose of perpetrating the vice without the normal consequences. By supplying these appliances they participated in the crime of demoralising and debasing their fellow creatures. Referring to the "abounding imposture of quackery," Mr. Hyslop gave an apt quotation from Crabbe, and asked Was it consistent with truth and honesty to allow their names to be placed on handbills and almanacs got up to deceive the illiterate and to fill the pockets of the rich at the expense of the poor?

DUTIES TO THE MEDICAL PROFESSION.

The great aim of the pharmacist should be to worthily fill the position of confidential and trustworthy assistant to the doctor. The pharmacist's shop should not be allowed to become a fancy bazaar for the sale of patent and fancy articles if he desired to stand in his proper position in the eyes of the medical world. He should also be able to show that, besides being qualified, he was a competent man and ever ready for his duties. In the third phase of the pharmacist's career, dealing with his

DUTY TO SCHOOLMATES,

Mr. Hyslop said that in the good time coming he fancied he saw plenty of chemists scattered throughout the British Empire who would meet the needs of all men, and he heard the words passing from mouth to mouth, "See how these chemists love one another." (Laughter.) It might be that if a man were incapacitated from his business, his brother chemists would keep his customers together for him until the crisis passed; and, if it were found necessary that a man should be away from his business on the score of health for a month, that his brother pharmacist should take over his business during that time, so that when he returned he might find it in the same condition as when he left it. Should anything like this be realised, it would come simply as a virtuous reward for the recognition of their common scholarship. But, he might be asked, why ought he to expect such things? Why should there not be a nucleus of pharmacy-men, trained at the School of Pharmacy or at other centres of learning, ready to push forward the cause of pharmacy proper for the benefit of the Society, the assistance of the physician, and the good of the craft to which they belonged? The successful career of their own Association was an earnest to him that such a desideratum was possible of attainment. The remembrance that they were schoolmates, and their efforts to cultivate an *esprit de corps*, would tend to level many molehills now magnified into mountains. The late controversy as to secret commissions was a case in point. Had they not all known mere trading-chemists, who were always ready to take advantage of their neighbour for their own immediate profit; some to advertise the greatest quack remedies at the lowest prices, in order to steal the trade from their neighbour who would not swerve from the principle of demanding a fair profit on everything that passed through his hands? (Applause.)

Mr. GAMBLE, in opening the discussion, said Mr. Hyslop's remarks were interesting, and the way he spoke to them ensured their confidence. It was a curious coincidence also that the medical profession had this year been spoken to on the subject of the ideal by Sir James Crichton Browne. He had read the address with very great pleasure himself, and he would recommend others also to read it. Mr. Hyslop had put before them some ideas which he thought were somewhat difficult of attainment. It would be very nice to see that pleasurable condition which he had mentioned of one chemist being able to hand over his business for a month to his neighbour. A doctor did it certainly, but he thought for a chemist to do so would be a difficult matter. In regard to the point of the poor assistant, it was undoubtedly a fact that the assistant got a lot of blame. Perhaps in the future they could look for a better class of masters rising up. (Laughter.)

Mr. MORLEY TAYLOR thought they could only wish for many of Mr. Hyslop's ideals to come true. Mr. Hyslop had a very high ideal of pharmacy, and if every registered man had had an equally high ideal the living-difficulty might have become less serious. The question was due, in some respects, to the extraordinary and unexplainable way in which men allowed themselves to become mere retailers of quack nostrums.

Mr. STROTHER wished that Mr. Hyslop's address could have been an appeal to the public, because the public were the cause of the very ills they regretted. The chemist felt that his business must be conducted on the principle of demand, and that the article most in demand must be sold. The system of retaliation by one chemist labelling medicines at a lower price than his neighbour was, in the cases of assistants in stores, due to the manager giving instructions for the sale of a certain thing at a certain price, and to make a show of it in his window. He thought the ethics of the future might be a great deal improved if the young men of the trade took a stand against such methods. They might assert that they would only do straightforward business, and refuse to work except on the lines of a straightforward chemist. Certainly, many were tempted by the salaries, and the question they asked themselves was: "If I lose this situation, can I get anything as good? No. Then I must do what I am told." Another side of the question was the extraordinary apathy of chemists. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. F. JAMES thought he knew two things which would possibly help the attainment of their ideal. One was the abolition of the pernicious indoor-assistant system. The assistant lived in the atmosphere of his master. He was with him all day in the shop, and afterwards over the table he imbibed his ideas, and perhaps those of his wife. (Laughter.) Sometimes an assistant got on very well with his master, but had serious difficulty in meeting the wishes of the chemist's wife. (Laughter.) This living in the atmosphere of the chemist's house tended to make the assistant narrow-minded. He asked a man the other day why he did not join the Assistants' Association, and he replied: "Oh, when I finish business, there are only three things for me." "And what," I asked him, "are they?" "Why, beer, 'bacca, and billiards." (Laughter.) He thought that enlightened men in business were now in the minority, and as to the higher ideals of Mr. Hyslop, while he was in sympathy with them, he did not think, from what he had heard, that that gentleman was very hopeful of attaining them.

Mr. HYSLOP, in reply, said he was very grateful to them for having received his effort in such an acceptable manner. The only thing he missed was a little difference in opinion—(laughter)—he liked to see a little opposition at these gatherings. Touching on the matter of literature, he suggested the reading of Dr. Abercrombie's work, "Harmony of the Moral Feelings." It was a wonderful book, and could be obtained by anyone from the library of the North British branch in Edinburgh on application. There was another book which he could recommend them, Professor Lecky's best book, "The Natural History of Morals." It was a work that would bear reading for the sake of amusement alone—a real good English book. (Applause.)

Mr. A. LATRAILLE proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Hyslop, and, this being heartily accorded, the meeting adjourned.

Cambridge Pharmaceutical Association.

THE seventh annual meeting of this Association was held on October 27. The President (Mr. Alderman Deck, F.C.S.) occupied the chair.

TREASURER AND SECRETARY'S REPORTS.

Mr. COOK (Hon. Treasurer) presented his report, showing a balance of 16s. 2d., while 2d. had been added to the reserve fund.

Mr. B. SIDNEY CAMPKIN (Hon. Secretary) in his report remarked that the Association had much to congratulate themselves upon, inasmuch as the interest of the members was increasing, the chemists of the town being practically unanimous in their support, and that their knowledge of each other since the formation of the Association had increased to their mutual advantage; that as a body they were more closely in touch with the Pharmaceutical Society, and individually more interested in the work done by the Council.

THE ELECTION OF OFFICERS

was then proceeded with, when Mr. Alderman Deck (President), Messrs. A. Sidney Campkin and E. Saville Peck (Vice-Presidents), Mr. H. F. Cook (Hon. Treasurer), and Mr. B. S. Campkin (Hon. Secretary) were re-elected, with Messrs. O. S. Addison, G. McAvoy, W. H. White, H. J. Parson, E. H. Church, and H. Coulson as committee.

Mr. A. SIDNEY CAMPKIN, J.P., spoke of the value of the Association, and the urgency of close attention to matters pharmaceutical in view of prospective legislation.

Mr. E. SAVILLE PECK gave an outline of the matters for discussion by the Association in connection with the Federation meeting to take place on November 10.

Irish Pharmacists' Assistants' Association.

THE opening meeting of the fifth session of this Association was held on October 27, at 8 Eden Quay, Dublin. Mr. W. V. Johnston (Hon. Vice-President) occupied the chair. There was a good attendance.

THE CHAIRMAN said it gave him great pleasure to take part in the meeting, as although he could no longer call himself one of the rank-and-file his sympathies were ever with them. THE SECRETARY then read his report for the session ending September 30, 1899.

THE SECRETARY'S REPORT

stated that the session commenced early in November, 1898, the attendance being all that could be desired, but although a goodly number of new members were elected the attendance during the latter part was much out of proportion to the members on the books. As a reason for this it has been put forward that Friday night is not a suitable one; it is suggested that the committee should consider the desirability of at least changing the night of meeting to every alternate Tuesday and Friday.

The balance-sheet shows that the past session has been a particularly successful one from a financial point of view, as it had also been from a social point of view. An employment agency was started at the commencement of last session, but the lack of suitable rooms to which letters could be sent considerably hampered its usefulness; this difficulty has now been overcome, and it is hoped that the agency will be of considerable use to members and employers.

With regard to the Association's difference with the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society, the report stated that from the inception of the Association they had worked heart and hand with the Society for the advancement of pharmacy. A large number of the members are members of the Pharmaceutical Society, and remain loyal to the Society and its interests; but as a separate body, and not in any way infringing upon the rights of the Council, the committee could not see their way to accept dictation upon a matter which in no way compromised the dignity of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

The report concluded by asking members to support the Association by contributing papers or notes on subjects of interest, and hoped the attendance would be better.

Mr. CONYNGHAM suggested the advisability of keeping a

register with the names and addresses of all assistants coming from the country, so as to meet the requirements of employers needing assistants.

The CHAIRMAN thought that would be hardly practicable, as it would entail keeping a secretary constantly upon the premises.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

The TREASURER then read the statement of accounts for the past year. The report showed that the total receipts for the year 1898-99 amounted to 60*l.* 3*s.* 5*d.*, making, with a balance in hand at the commencement of the session, 69*l.* 13*s.* 11*d.*. The expenses amounted to 54*l.* 0*s.* 11*d.*, leaving a balance in hand of 15*l.* 13*s.*. A loss of 3*l.* 3*s.* on the dance and supper was more than balanced by the profit of 3*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.* yielded by the concerts.

The CHAIRMAN, in inviting discussion upon the report, congratulated the Association upon its sound financial position.

Mr. O'SULLIVAN moved the adoption of the report, and said some of the social meetings were not a success financially, but they were even prepared to hold them at a slight loss as long as they were socially successful.

Mr. HUNT, in supporting the adoption of the report, stated that in former years they had received a good many subscriptions from the wholesale houses as an encouragement to the Association; but last year they decided to rely solely upon their members for support, and the result showed that their confidence was not misplaced.

ELECTIONS.

The following new members were then elected:—Miss Smyth, Messrs. Scott, McIntyre, Martin, Holloway, Blair, Wilson, Kefausse, Anderson, McTrane, Lynch, and Kingland.

Mr. Hunt was re-elected President, Mr. J. T. Turner was elected Vice-President, Mr. Jessop Secretary, and Mr. Williams Assistant-Secretary. Mr. R. J. Savage was also appointed Treasurer.

After discussion, the question of the advisability of altering the meeting-night was referred to the committee.

Glasgow Chemists' and Druggists' Assistants' and Apprentices' Association.

AT the meeting of this Association held on October 27, the PRESIDENT (Mr. J. T. Gilmour) delivered an address on

THE ASSISTANT: HIS FORTUNES AND FUTURE.

In the course of his paper Mr. Gilmour pointed out that there were two principal phases of assistant-life: (1) The economic, and (2) the student. The two outstanding economic evils in the assistant's lot were (1) long hours, and (2) low wages. The special cause of the inordinately long hours in pharmacy was the so-called emergency demand for medicines, a demand which, curiously enough, reached its minimum between midnight and 9 A.M., and its maximum between 6 P.M. and midnight. If they were to anticipate the course of economic development it would only be modifying the action of the special cause which lengthened the already excessively long working-day of the pharmacist. Speaking of low wages, Mr. Gilmour said there were always some assistants who took the view that employers as a class were responsible for the pittance which they received as a reward of their labours. But poor pay did not necessarily arise from the cupidity of employers; it was a result of these causes—(1) that pharmacy is a fairly agreeable and honourable or genteel calling; (2) that there is no great difficulty or expense in acquiring proficiency as an unqualified assistant or even in getting the legal qualification; (3) that the employment is steady; (4) that the probability of success as an assistant and even as a pharmacist in business for himself is high. To raise wages provisionally they must increase the difficulty and expense of entering the profession, and agitate for an enforcement of the law which now nominally protects the qualified assistant. Things have been drifting in that direction for some years. Nothing is more certain than that the Pharmacy Act, 1868, did not contemplate the legal qualification of the assistant. The definition of the word "seller" imported into the Act is

a judge-made formula, but the legal fiction is proving itself a blessing in disguise, since it has quickened the demand for qualified assistants, and so improved their status. Any gain on these lines must, however, be temporary; the spread and cheapening of secondary education will soon increase the supply of material out of which assistants are made, and they will soon reach the stage at which Germany stands, where a highly-trained scientific man can be got to fill a responsible position at 100*l.* a year. There is only one real preventive of this eventuality, and that is to raise the standard of comfort. One of the ways in which this can be brought about is by organised effort on trades-union lines, by assistants themselves. What were the legal and medical professions, and all those corporations or syndicates which combined to maintain or raise fees and prices, but huge trade-unions? Surely no one could deny that in following these illustrious examples the assistant would be worthy of his masters. Criticising the position of the assistant as a student, Mr. Gilmour remarked that at present the student was the victim of a transitional movement. The present standard of the Minor was above the *sine curriculum* and below the curriculum level, hence the anomaly of day-classes, which inflicted all the hardships without any of the advantages of a prescribed course of study. As regards the Minor itself it was defective alike in form and process. He was glad that there had been

PLAIN-SPEAKING IN INFLUENTIAL QUARTERS

about the arbitrariness and backwardness of a system of examination that compelled the candidate to pass in all his subjects or fail in all. As the Minor stands, it is about the most primitive and antiquated examinational mechanism in the country. Touching the nature and scope of the Minor, Mr. Gilmour said it is neither properly scientific nor adequately technical. And its *modus operandi*, especially in relation to the oral part, might be vastly improved by substituting a written examination, wherever practicable, for the *viva-voce* method. The greater part of the Minor could be conducted in writing, and more efficiently than at present. The necessity for reform in these directions was all the more imperative in view of the probability that, with the division of the examination, the standard of the Minor will reach the level of the present Major. Having seen the assistants safely through the Minor, it is assumed that he will seek the earliest opportunity of starting business for himself, and while qualified assistants are relatively scarce, most of them can get a chance of setting-up on their own account; but as the supply overtakes the demand openings will become proportionately fewer.

DISCUSSION.

A Member expressed the opinion that the formation of a Trade Union would only be a method of boycotting the masters. Increased wages must come from the public, not from the masters. It was the public who wished them to keep open till late. Two or three times measures had been taken to reduce the hours, but without avail, as some masters always stood out.

In reply, Mr. GILMOUR said he saw nothing to hinder a reasonable arrangement being come to between the druggists in a certain district to keep open by turns. The masters might not like a proposal to form a Trade Union; but the masters had formed a combination among themselves to keep wages at a certain level.

Burnley Chemists and Company-pharmacy.

THE principal business of a meeting of the Chemists' Association in Burnley and District held on October 31 was the consideration of the question of the hour. Mr. HEATON (the President) was in the chair, and he urged chemists and druggists to make the most of their position in the community by vigorously influencing their parliamentary representatives. He regretted that during the past twenty years the Pharmaceutical Council had directed their whole and sole attention to technical and educational matters, while the company octopus had been allowed to slowly and surely spread its tentacles throughout the length and breadth of the land, and quietly suck the life-blood out of the poor struggling pharmacist. It was only within the last few

years, when pressure was brought to bear upon that rather fossilised body by a comparatively small section of the trade, that they relaxed their apathy and indifference. The introduction of new blood into the Council had been productive of good results, but he was of the opinion that if chemists relaxed their efforts with respect to impending legislation and other grievances, the Council would certainly relapse into its former state of lethargy. (Applause.)

Mr. COATES moved the following resolution:—

That this meeting of the Burnley and District Chemists' Association resolve to petition the Council to take steps to combat the Bill now before Parliament; also that the Council should be requested to endeavour to have a clause inserted in the Companies Bill to protect the title of chemist and druggist, and to insist that the directors of all companies should be qualified.

Mr. Coates spoke of the importance of the protection of the chemist's titles, and further urged that it was not right that any unqualified person should be allowed to tamper with the health of the public, as was the case at present.

Mr. DODSLEY, who seconded the resolution, like Mr. Coates, believed that they ought at present to fight simply for the protection of titles. Mr. LAWTON, of Nelson, and Mr. STUTTARD, of Colne, supported the resolution, which was carried unanimously, and a copy of which was ordered to be forwarded to the Pharmaceutical Council.

Mr. BROWN (the Secretary) in presenting his interim report, stated that November 9 would be the anniversary of the first meeting of the Association, and said they had great hopes of progress during the next twelve months. He also supported the motion, which was passed.

A Clear View of the Situation,

In the form of Annotations by an Extraordinary Pharmacist.

IT has been conceded on all hands that the only thing necessary for the future welfare of the craft is a passive contemplation of the great capacity for inertia possessed by Our Rulers, who, in spite of the misrepresentations of a certain

SERVILE TRADE JOURNAL,

are the best possible exponents of all that is good and harmless—within the bounds of cogent reason—and who wisely prefer to entertain a holy horror of active exertion, and decline to enter into a race after any phantom will-o'-the-wisp whatsoever, no matter what the craft or any

IRRESPONSIBLE ADVISER

who is not included in the category of the Elect, and who is not crowned with the halo of "Faith in Pure Pharmacy in the Abstract," may think.

This is the course which during all the years of our long and struggling existence we have never ceased to advocate, and now that incipient symptoms of an awakening seem to be manifest in our midst, it behoves us to raise a clarion note and warn all and sundry against an undignified energy, lest they rouse those sensibilities which have lain so long dormant and spoil the happy dream-days of our existence by embarking in a vain search for the so-called halcyon days when the craft will find it necessary to bestir themselves and struggle for existence—a struggle which we have oftentimes said there never was, and never will be, any necessity for whatsoever, while there exists such a band of self-sacrificing and dignified men willing to give their best efforts to the cause as Our Rulers, and a periodical such as this to voice the feelings of that valiant band more or less correctly as we think proper; therefore we would admonish one and all who have the

WELFARE OF THE CRAFT

at heart to heed not the petty rumblings of these extinct volcanoes, but to let us turn round on the other side and go peacefully to sleep again.

We have always pointed out (*ante* all the back numbers) that a sublime cultivation of the Ego and a supreme contempt for the desires and hopes of the majority are the only

real necessities of the craft, for whereas certain inferior persons, who have so far forgotten what is due to themselves as to conduct pharmacy on a business-like principle against our cogent advice, may in the course of their career have gone so far out of the beaten track as to make money in spite of our prophecies to the contrary, and have not held strictly to the strait path of professionalism, which leads to starvation and the work-house; for, as we have pointed out, the dignity of our profession can be upheld even in the dispensing of a penny toothcomb, and the professional status is shown in the Elect even in the manipulation necessary to the proper vending of a halfpennyworth of sticking-plaster, or $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. of cough drops for a child just turned 13 months, with a hacking cough and a pain in the region of its epigastrium, induced by a too copious imbibing of hot gin-and-water, and a subsequent chill.

But all these things pale before the suggestions made in cold blood by a

SCREECHING TRADE-PRESS

that something ought to be done in the company-question, a question which we do not understand anything at all about, and which should be avoided as an unclean thing, because we think that nothing can be done with it, although Our Rulers think otherwise; still, we are not going to be dictated to even by Our Rulers, who ought to know better and not make rash promises without consulting us, especially when they know that we object to it, and it would look like pandering to that [Note to the comp.—Work in our stock adjectives here—*e.g.*, "scurillions," "mercenary," &c.] trade-press which is the bane of our existence and the joy of the common people—the company-question being, as we have said before (*ante* x. 12, 1749, p. 4), a matter which will settle itself in some way or other, and we have settled it many years ago—when at our behest ordinary pharmacists wrote articles showing the forlorn condition of our title and local secretaries said "Amen"—not without much effort on our part, and a great deal of vexation and worry and labour, which makes us hope more deeply than ever that the whole thing will soon be quashed, and these and all other intricate questions of a like nature which are for the good of the ordinary pharmacist may be relegated to the regions of the *ewigkeit*.

[This "copy" seems to have come to us in error, but our virulent contributor assures us that it is meant for us. What does it mean? We are assured that "the hidden wisdom when once dug out is of a particularly choice character, although the hyperbole with which it is clothed makes it the despair of the conscientious and the envy of Lancashire." Again we ask, What does it mean and where does it come from? The length of the sentences suggests a writer of Teutonic origin.—ED.]

TOP NOT SPECIALITIES.—We have been struck by the manner in which the Top Not Company, 56 Waterloo Street, Glasgow, are putting their hair-preparations on the market. They recognise, as most chemists do, that there is an immense field of service, as well as a good business, in the cultivation of the hair, and they strike an original line in combining with a soap basis a herbal preparation said to be indigenous to Burmah. They put up this soap in tiny tablets, each of which is to be dissolved in a pint of hot water and diluted for washing the head. This solution makes a very effective shampoo and hair-cleanser, and in the case of long hair there is with it none of that "matting" which is such a worry to womankind. The soap is attractively put up in 6d. boxes of seven tablets, and a more highly perfumed article is sold in 1s. boxes of eight tablets. The article is well worth the attention of retailers, as are also the other specialities of the firm. For example, Top Not Dressing, which is a good scalp-stimulant, and is put up in 6d. and 1s. bottles—the latter, with sprinkler-tops, being very good value as a hair-wash. This dressing contains the same active ingredients as the soap, as also does the Top Not Cream, a white pomade which is used for assisting the soap in especially severe cases of dandruff and the like. The firm also put up in 3d. tins a Top Not ointment, which is a harmless insecticide. They offer attractive advertising-matter to their customers, and solicit correspondence with the trade.

The Brewers' Exhibition.

THIS annual institution is celebrating its twenty-first birthday in the Agricultural Hall this week, but so far as its connection with pharmacy is concerned its glory has departed. Year by year it is becoming less related to non-alcoholic drinks and more important to "the trade." Bars and billiard-rooms, beer and whisky, cigars and cutlery, have taken the place of the exhibits of such firms as Barnett & Foster and Bratby & Hinchliffe in the aerated-water machinery department, and of W. J. Bush & Co. and Stevenson & Howell in soluble essences. Once upon a time we could depend upon finding something new to write about at every alternate stand in this Exhibition, but now we might walk up a whole row and find only two or three exhibitors whose goods interest our readers.

The Hall is not quite so full as last year, but the whole of the floor-space is occupied, and although our report is briefer we would make it perfectly clear that, so far as the promoters are concerned, the show may be a success; but the fact must be borne in mind by those interested in the aerated-water trade, that that industry is represented in it to a comparatively moderate extent, and it would not pay anyone, with that sole interest in view, to come up to London to see it.

MACHINERY.

This is by far the most important section in the Exhibition. The roar and rumble of gas-engines, elevators, and mechanical bottle-washers is varied more or less pleasantly by the "cluck-fizz" of a soda-water neighbour or the music of innumerable polyphones, all playing different tunes.

The bottling-industry is, as would be expected, very well represented. MONTAGUE SHARP & Co. are showing Enzinger's bottling-apparatus for filling four or eight bottles at a time, and a mammoth beer-filter in action. This firm have also a small exhibit of essences for mineral waters, the only novelty we could discover being an "Essence of Pino." FLOWER, COUSINS & Co. are attracting much attention with an automatic filling and corking machine, which they say can be adapted not only to any kind of bottle but to all liquids, oils and inks included. The machine is ingenious the one we saw in action being capable of finishing-off 200 dozen per hour. The feeder has only to be kept full and the regulator set to the size of the bottle. The bottles receive the requisite quantity and are then transferred to the corking-part of the machine, where a vacuum-pump extracts any air left in the neck of the receptacle before the cork is driven in. C. E. BEAVIS has patented a filling-machine, and a variation on the "Codd" patent aerated-water bottle, which are both novel. The "Beavis" machine merely requires a girl to fix the empty bottles into a revolving disc with the right hand and take out the full ones with the left. Each bottle as it revolves is charged automatically with aerated water from a feed-pipe connected with the lower part of the machine. The "Beavis" bottle is claimed to be of stronger construction than the ordinary "Codd." The CROWN CORK COMPANY (LIMITED) are demonstrating the simpleness and ease with which their "crowning" system is conducted. J. P. JACKSON & Co. and W. BARNARD & SONS have each large exhibits of all kinds of carbonating, filling, and corking machines, and T. & W. COLE (LIMITED) show the "Automat" filler, which, they claim, will fill from high or low racks without waste. Perhaps the most varied in the machinery section is supplied, however, by FARROW & JACKSON (LIMITED). Their exhibit is the despair of the reporter, for it contains so much. Besides the bottling and corking machinery they supply corks, bottle washers and brushes, capsules and capsuling-machines, beer-engines and bottle-wax, soda-water machinery and appliances.

The WELHAN SYNDICATE (LIMITED) show a neat, compact, and portable machine, similar to some they have supplied to the Army Corps for South Africa. At the top of an ordinary liquefied carbonic-acid cylinder a releasing-apparatus, fitted with a gauge and safety-valve, is fixed. A flexible, strongly-protected rubber tube connects this with a bottle-filler, at the top of which is placed a large block-tin globe. The bottle, filled with plain water, is fitted into the filler, the gas admitted into the globe, and the bottle turned

upside down. The water rushes into the globe and becomes charged with gas, and the bottle in a few moments, on being restored to its original position, is found to be well aerated. The DIAMOND SODA-WATER MACHINE COMPANY (LIMITED) have a neat little show of their special machine for making aerated liquors; and MAICHE (LIMITED) have an improved fountain for delivering aerated water at high pressure and an automatic water-steriliser. The sterilisation is accomplished by heating to 230° F. The chief features claimed for the steriliser are its automatic working and a patent governor which, it is said, will not permit any water to be delivered unless it is sterilised.

Machinery for bottle washing and rinsing is shown largely by D. G. BINNINGTON and by FOXON, ROBINSON & Co. (LIMITED), who have an improved washing-machine for mineral-water bottles, fitted with a patent self-sinking tray. This firm have also a variety of corking and syphon-filling machines. The rotary system of bottle-washing machinery is exhibited by THOMAS HILL, who has five varieties of bottle-washers, besides a stopper-washer and syphon-cleaner. CLARKE BROTHERS affect the honeycombed galvanised bottle-washer, and a new automatic machine of the same description they have named the "Witch." Another bottle-washing machine is the "Victrix," shown by RICHARD SIMON. An ingenious syphon-top cleaner is shown in action by SIDNEY MUNCCKTON. The cleaning is done by means of 1½-inch double belt of untanned hide, in which the top is held while the belt is revolved. The head of the syphon is caught by a spring-buffer, which keeps it in position.

A clever labelling-machine is shown by WILLIAM FLETCHER. It is worked by a treadle, and in the action a brush spreads the paste on the pad. This is transferred to the label-damper, which, by a stroke of the pedal, damps the edges of the label, and the bottle is then rolled over the top of the label, which adheres to it. It is claimed that by this method labelling can be done faster, cheaper, and cleaner than by hand.

W. & T. AVERY (LIMITED) are showing automatic weighing-machines for street or shop, and in the gallery WELSH'S PATENT MEASURING-TAP (LIMITED) exhibit their measuring-taps, made in gun-metal and silveroid, which can be adapted for oils, and might be made useful to chemists who have a large wholesale trade in bottled proprietaries.

The "Perfecto" electric cigar lighter and cutter, made by A. ROSENBERG & Co., struck us as a scientific bit of apparatus. It is 8¼ inches long by 7¼ inches wide, by 5¼ inches high, and is meant for counter-use. By simply pressing down a lever the cigar-end is snipped off, and a magnetic dynamo inside produces a spark which lights a small benzoline lamp, and there you have a light. The lid of the machine is used largely for advertising-purposes, and the whole thing costs about 35s.

The "Neostyle" is a clever printing-apparatus which we find on exhibition in the gallery. It consists of a half-covered cylinder, the covering consisting of perforated metal, upon which is placed a sheet of wax-paper, bearing the matter to be copied either written or typed. In the process of writing or typing the wax-paper is perforated; the back of the perforated metal is brushed with a special ink which filters through the writing or printing, the consequence being that an exact facsimile of the matter is transferred to sheets of paper when the cylinder is revolved as in an ordinary printing-machine. It is a simple yet clever arrangement which costs 10s., and for those who want a little bit of printing done it is one of the quickest forms in this class.

Mr. A. WALL has devised a clever idea for "maturing" beer with carbonic-acid gas. An ordinary screw-stopper has a hole bored into it almost to the bottom, then this hole is continued at right angles to make an L outlet. The hole in the circumference is covered with a band, which allows gas to blow in, but none to go out, and the aerating-machine which Mr. Wall makes and sells does the rest.

CHEMICALS AND ESSENCES.

Special positions are held by the SACCHARIN CORPORATION (LIMITED) and the MANCHESTER CHEMICAL COMPANY, neither of whom make a large show of their exhibits, confining themselves to propagandist work amongst the visitors. The latter firm have one or two new lines suitable for likely customers at this exhibition—such as "Referee

Phizz," and the essences of grape-champagne, orange-champagne, raisin, and cognac. The ANGLO-CONTINENTAL CHEMICAL-WORKS (LIMITED) have a bright exhibit in one of the bays, but no new preparations are shown, except, perhaps, "Eucasin Chocolate," a delightful method of assimilating the "food of strength." The LONDON ESSENCE COMPANY have their usual gorgeous exhibit, with cosy little nooks and corners here and there, where much business is evidently being done in an unassuming way. The exhibit is chiefly soluble and fruit essences and essential oils and colours. The latest fruit-extracts are extract of strawberry and raspberry, both being of fine, full bouquet and rich colour; but, unlike the black-currant extract—an equally tasty preparation—they are unsuitable for boiled sugars. CLAYTON & JOWETT (LIMITED) have a big show near the main entrance. Essential oils, fruit-essences, and colourings predominate; but one or two new items "Kapanite" hop-beer preservative, and various new winter specialities are noted. The firm are also pushing tobacco-flavours. BRATBY & HOWARD have a small show of essences, herbs, and chemicals suitable for aerated-water trade, amongst their specialities being phosphatic acid and "Frotheso." Phospho-citric acid is the principal item shown by HASSALL & Co., and JOHNSON & HOOPER (LIMITED) are pushing "Edme Malt-extract" and "Edme" barleys, primings, brewers' sugar and bisulphites, and a preparation for maltsters' steep-water which they call "Germaid." HERRING, GILES & Co., besides their usual large exhibit of isinglass, crude and manufactured, have a small show of brewers' sundries and chemicals. A similar exhibit is that of E. THOMPSON & Co., who are likewise showing a finings-machine. Carbonic-acid gas in tube and cylinder is much in evidence, a big show being made by the CARBONIC-ACID GAS COMPANY, who have a gasometer illustrating the means of supplying the gas from the cylinders, and an automatic valve showing continuous working, with a warning-bell attached which rings when the supply runs short.

BARRETT & ELLERS (LIMITED) are likewise large makers of carbonic-acid gas. A small quantity of solidified CO_2 is shown at their stand moulded into the form of a pyramid. This curiosity leads to many inquiries. The firm's representative informs us that the company were turning out 10,000 tubes per month during last summer, which speaks well for the thirst-capacity of this country and the working-capacity of their new factory. The WASHINGTON CHEMICAL COMPANY (LIMITED) are also exhibiting pure liquefied carbonic-acid gas, in steel tubes containing from 28 lbs. to 44 lbs., and specimens of magnesite sectional coverings for aerated-water machinery. For the latter this firm are the sole European manufacturers.

VARIOUS LIQUIDS.

IDRIS & Co. (LIMITED) make their exhibit an attractive rendezvous. They emphasise the fact that their syphons are of the best English manufacture, and that the vases, tops, &c., are all of the best material. Moreover, to chemists or others who wish to embark in the manufacture of aerated waters on their own account, the firm are always willing to give advice as to the purchase of machinery and plant. ROSBACH SPRINGS (LIMITED) lit up a corner of the gloom with a bright-looking show of their table-water and a collection of showcards and advertising-literature, while ST. RONAN'S WELLS AND MINERAL-WATER COMPANY (LIMITED) occupy a little corner under the gallery. Dainties, stimulating, sustaining, and refreshing, are provided by BRAND & Co. (LIMITED), whose beef-essences, bouillon, and other savoury hot-dishes are to be sampled free of charge. The same rule applies at the shows of CARNOS (LIMITED), who blossom forth into Carnos stout and Carnos wine for the occasion, and GORDON & DILWORTH (LIMITED), who provide tomato-catsup sustenance to the fresh visitor in the arcade-entrance and to the jaded traveller in the end gallery. STEPHEN SMITH & Co. (LIMITED) are as receptive and full of geniality and business as usual, and there are many delighted samplers of Hall's wines even among the hypercritical palates of the visiting victuallers. BOWEN & MCKECHNIE, besides their staples, have a line of St Raphael quinquina tonic wine, which looms largely amongst stacks of "Glenalva," "Glenlivet," and various Irish spirituous decoctions. The stall is nicely fitted-up in imitation of a double-windowed shop. In the gallery WATKINS' POMONA CIDER COMPANY

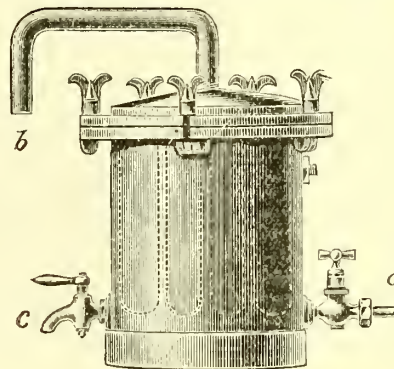
(LIMITED) and J. CHRISTMAS & Co. have small but sparkling displays, the former of "Pomona" cider and champagne-perry, and the latter of home-made fruit-wines. A fine show of a similar character, but of greater proportions, is that of JOHN SYMONS & Co. (LIMITED) in the main hall. The well-known productions of this Devonshire firm are in full force, "Devonshire Moselle" and "Devonshire Chablis" being worthy rivals to the better-known "Symonia" and "Sydrina." BEAUFOY & Co., of vinegar fame, have an important list of British and foreign wines and cordials. Lime-juice cordial, lemon-squash, and an attractive coca-wine have good places, and are each elegantly put up. The GRAPE VINEGAR COMPANY (LIMITED) give zest to digestion with sauces, chutneys, salad, creams, and other culinary requisites.

SCIENTIFIC INSTRUMENTS

have three representatives, and all of more than average merit. The principal exhibit is that of J. J. HICKS, which is devoted to thermometers, saccharometers and the like, for brewing-purposes, and hydrometers for conscientious publicans.

EARTHENWARE AND GLASS.

The BERKEFELD FILTER COMPANY (LIMITED) are showing several of their pressure filters specially intended for



filtering and sterilising water for aerated-water manufacturers and brewers. It consists either of strong wrought iron or copper box with the top clamped down. It contains fifteen Berkefeld candles, each about 2 inches in diameter, and before filtration commences a little kieselguhr is passed into the filter. This kieselguhr deposits itself upon the candles, so that when water is allowed to flow into it from the main, filtration proceeds at an exceedingly rapid rate without the fear of that clogging which might take place if the loose kieselguhr were not there. The apparatus filters at the rate of several hundred gallons per hour, and it works very efficiently. The candles can be cleaned by a simple reversion of the flow of water, and, owing to the use of the loose kieselguhr already referred to, the rush of water carries away the powder and all deposit, thus obviating the use of a brush. The provision for this cleaning of the candles consists of a small nipple-shaped nozzle at the top of the filter in the place where the bent tube is shown in the illustration, which, we may explain, we use solely to exhibit the form of the filter. On this nipple a tube is fixed, and a few strokes of an air-pump forces off the deposit.

The EMPIRE FILTER COMPANY are showing filters of "Tripoli" stone, which are made in various sizes; the smallest, a pocket-filter, is simply a piece of the stone made in the form of a ball, to which is attached an india-rubber pipe. This is inserted into the muddy water and the clear water filtered off through the tube. The filter is likely to become a useful adjunct to the chemist's stock when it is better known. The PATENT GLASS TUBING COMPANY have an imitation cellar fitted up, showing the superiority of their glass tubing to leaden pipes for the conveyance of liquors. There is no metal of any sort used in these. A small but neat and pretty show of well-finished syphons in various colours is that of FENESTRE, CADISCH & Co.

The exhibits of stoneware are again very good, but there is little in what we saw of them to call for special remark.

CLEANSERS.

The cleansing of pipes and casks in brewers' cellars seems to be a perennial trouble. To remedy this several preparations are always to be found at these exhibitions. Amongst them we find an article called the "Licensed Victuallers'" vegetable pipe cleansing fluid, shown by A. LEWIS & Co.; the WARDLAW DETERGENT COMPANY have an alkaline cleanser in cubes, broken pieces, and in powder; and PAGE, SELLARS & Co. direct attention to Page's "Clean-all," a liquid preparation for the same purpose, and Page's "Excelsior" sanitary-fluid, which is said to be a safe disinfectant and deodoriser. LANE & FITE are showing "The Nugget" black waterproof polishes for boots, harness, &c., and the CHISWICK SOAP COMPANY are giving away a child's toy with each penny box of "Buttercup" metal-polish.

SUNDRIES.

The only perfume-firms who are exhibiting are the VINOLIA COMPANY (LIMITED), with a large and, as usual, tasteful display in the gallery, and the ROSMARINE MANUFACTURING COMPANY, whose latest perfume is the "Belle Bouquet." The latter stall is embellished by gigantic Kronthal-bottles containing various perfumes.

The most important exhibitors of mineral-water boxes and cases are C. H. GLOVER & Co. (LIMITED). They have on view every description of box, crate, and case, besides parcel-post boxes, collapsible crates, and Mackey's patent "Acme" lids.

The WELSBACH INCANDESCENT LIGHT COMPANY (LIMITED) greet the visitor with a brilliant glare in the arcade-entrance, while in the gallery BILLING'S BURNER SYNDICATE (LIMITED) are showing a "non-mantle" incandescent-gas burner, which has a sort of storage filter charged with asbestos and charcoval, through which the gas goes, the lighting part being constructed on the Bunsen-burner principle, with a double chimney to finish off. The light burns clean and bright.

The LAMSON PARAGON SUPPLY COMPANY (LIMITED) are showing a new chemist's syphon-book, the cheapest and neatest we have seen. The books are well printed and well gummed; there are three hundred checks to each book, and the cost is 2s. 3d. per dozen books.

The CORK COMPANY (LIMITED) have an excellent show which seems to run the whole gamut of cork-production. The dry-process corks, "Maxa" brand, the speciality of this firm, are beautifully-finished specimens of manufacture, and must be a pleasure to use. Cork in all stages of growth and manufacture are shown, and the whole is set out behind purple hangings which heighten the general effect. BOVINE (LIMITED) are makers of the "Bovine" food-specialities for bovines, equines, and porcines. The representative overwhelmed us with a gigantic volume of testimonials from horse-breeders, farmers, and veterinary surgeons all over the country.

OUTSIDE SHOWS.

MESSRS. HAYWARD-TYLER & Co., hydraulic and electrical engineers, inform us that they are not exhibiting at the Agricultural Hall this year, but they have a large show of aerated-water machinery at their City premises, 90 and 92 Whitecross Street, E.C., which they will be pleased to show anyone favouring them with a visit.

MESSRS. DURAFORT & SON, syphon and seltzogene manufacturers, Paris, write saying that they have not taken any part in the Brewers' Exhibition this year, but their agent, Mr. E. Schmolle, will call shortly on all the firm's clients and personally introduce their novelties, and the firm will be glad to send samples, price-list, and particulars to any customer writing for them. They call special attention to their porcelain-lined syphons.

Other firms, no doubt, are making special shows this week, but we have not heard directly from them.

THE exports of olive oil from Gallipoli in 1898 showed a decrease of 951 tons as compared with the previous year. Of the 3 518 tons which were actually exported 437 went to Great Britain, 1,446 to Italy, 1,304 to Russia, 237 to Austria, 38 to America, and 59 to Holland.

Trade Notes.

MESSRS. FRANCIS NEWBERY & SONS, King Edward Street, Newgate Street, E.C., having completely outgrown the capacity of their present premises, have acquired and fitted up new premises at 27, 28 and 44 Charterhouse Street, E.C., so as to provide adequate accommodation. In order to effect a speedy removal Messrs. Newbery intend closing on November 6 and 7.

MR. W. WYATT, chemist, 34 New Street, Lancaster, issues to his customers a neat price-list of lantern-requisites and his charges for the hire of lanterns and slides, which should be a capital list for working up the lantern-supply side-line. It is a good example that other chemists might well follow.

MR. C. WILKES, 29 Ludgate Hill, E.C., has been appointed general manager and sole agent for the British Empire (Canada excepted) for all English advertisements or publicity in the general official catalogue of the Paris 1900 Universal Exhibition; also for the French and English guides and other publications issued by Messrs. Lemerclier & Co., official contractors to the French Government and Exhibition Board.

CHRISTMAS PHOTOGRAPH MOUNTS.—We have received from Messrs. George Houghton & Son, 88 and 89 High Holborn, W.C., samples of their Christmas cards for photographs. The mounts are sent out in boxes containing an assortment of cards, and either tinted a rich olive-green or russet-brown colour. The set No. 4, which sells at 2s., contains a



dozen cards of suitable size for quarter-plate photographs. Some of the cards are of the push-in kind, and others require the photograph sticking on. The cards are embossed with exquisite designs, and each bears an appropriate greeting-motto in gold. Chemists who do a photographic trade should show a few of these mounts on the counter or in the window, as few amateur photographers could resist buying a box of the mounts after they had seen them. The illustrations give an idea of the designs and style of the cards.

WINTER SPECIALITIES.—Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co., 21 North Audley Street, Grosvenor Square, W., have been sending to the trade during the past ten days a circular regarding certain winter remedies which they are offering as counter-specialities. We have received a copy of the circular, and also samples of the articles mentioned. The firm's cod-liver oil emulsion we need say little about, as we have previously commended it. It contains 25 per cent. of oil combined with hypophosphites, and it is an inseparable emulsion. It is offered in $\frac{1}{2}$ gal. bottles, and chemists taking a certain quantity may obtain labels bearing their own name and address for the retail-bottles. In the cough-mixtures which the firm offer in bulk chemists will find a pleasant variation from the ordinary cough-mixtures. American druggists have long utilised such substances as white-pine bark, wild cherry, pine-tar, and similar indigenous drugs in compounding cough-mixtures, and with excellent results. Anodyne pine expectorant and glycerol Yerbine compound (P. D. & Co.) are palatable and efficient cough-remedies for retailing either as they are or diluted with chloroform water. Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co. also offer their bronchial lozenges in bulk or in boxes, and wild-cherry and pine-tar tablets put up in boxes with chemist's own name or in boxes with plain labels.

Scientific Progress.

The Alkaloids of Pomegranate-bark.—According to Tanret, at least four alkaloids exist in this bark—pelletierine, isopelletierine, methylpelletierine, and pseudopelletierine. The vermifuge action of the drug is usually ascribed to the two first named, so that a method of differentiation between the bases quantitatively, is of importance. The details of accurate methods for the estimation of the total alkaloids and of the therapeutically active ones are given in a paper by Ewers (*Arch. d. Pharm.*, 237, 1899, page 49), and from various experiments it appears that the active bases constitute 40 per cent. to 50 per cent. of the total alkaloidal content, which varies from 0.5 per cent. to 0.7 per cent., except in the case of Java bark, which is, apparently, richer.

Iodothymol-formaldehyde.—The latest of the legion of antiseptic compounds of formaldehyde, which appears capable of condensing with almost anything, is iodothymol-formaldehyde. To prepare this, 100 grammes of thymol and 100 grammes of formalin are warmed, and 100 grammes of concentrated hydrochloric acid are added. An oil separates, which soon solidifies to a crystalline mass: this is thymol-formaldehyde. It is iodised by means of an alcoholic solution of iodine and potassium iodide. The therapeutic action of this body is ascribed to its decomposition into its constituents in the organism.—*Pharm. Centralhalle*, xl, 42.

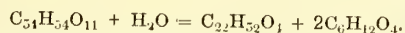
Cinchonine Isomers.—By the action of concentrated hydrochloric acid on cinchonine, there are obtained several isomers, of which the chief are pseudocinchonine and α -isocinchonine. Arlt has taken up the investigation of these bodies, which were originally discovered by Hesse, and claims that he has obtained pseudocinchonine in the pure state, melting at 267° C. In the mother-liquor from the crystallisation of its hydrochloride, he found two bases, which he considers are allocinchonine and δ -cinchonine. A β -isocinchonine is said also to exist, but it appears to us that the evidence of the individuality of these isomers requires to be somewhat strengthened.—*Monatshefte f. Chem.*, xx, 425.

Powdered Cardamoms.—An examination of six commercial samples of cardamom-fruits has given the following results, which should be useful to analysts, provided they are confirmed by a more extended investigation:—

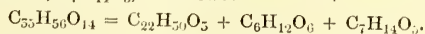
	Husk	Seed	Ash of Husk	Ash of Seed
	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.	Per cent.
Malabar I. ...	21	79	10.45	4.35
Malabar II. ...	23	77	13.69	4.85
Ceylon I. ...	28	72	12.41	6.36
Ceylon II. ...	28	72	11.29	5.85
Aleppi ...	31	69	9.63	4.01
Mangalore ...	30	70	8.98	4.27

—*Pharm. Centralhalle*, xl, 40.

Digitalis Compounds and their Derivatives.—Five-and-twenty pages of the *Archiv. d. Pharm.*, vi, 237, are devoted to a series of papers by Kiliani on the chemistry of this important group of bodies. The decomposition products of digitoxin—digitoxose and digitoxigenin—have been carefully examined. Digitoxose, $C_{12}H_{22}O_{11}$, is shown not to be either a ketone or aldehyde of the ordinary sugar type, but a tetrahydroxy compound of hexahydrobenzenc. (This raises the question as to whether digitoxin can correctly be called a glucoside.) Digitoxigenin has the formula $C_{22}H_{32}O_4$. To digitoxin itself, the formula $C_{31}H_{54}O_{11}$ is assigned, which makes the hydrolysis take place as follows:—



To true digitalin the formula $C_{35}H_{56}O_{14}$ is assigned, which confirms Schmiedberg's as well as Kiliani's previous work—that $(C_6H_8O_2)_x$ is the correct formula. The decomposition by hydrolysis yields digitaligenin and the sugars, ordinary *d*-glucose and digitalose, $C_7H_{14}O_5$, as follows:—

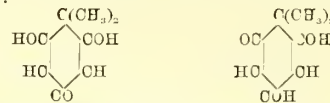


It is possible, however, that digitalin and digitaligenin contain two more atoms of hydrogen; but within these limits the formula may be regarded as fixed. Digitalin and digitoxigenin also come in for full treatment in these papers.

Damascenin.—This body is an alkaloid extracted from the seeds of *Nigella damascena*, which has previously been investigated by Schneider, in particular. Pommerehne has re-investigated it, and prepared a number of crystalline derivatives. Its composition is expressed by the formula $C_{10}H_{15}NO_5$, and it

forms well-defined platinum and gold salts. The nearest approach to a constitutional formula that can be given to it is $C_8H_9(O\cdot CH_3)_2NO$.—*Arch. d. Pharm.*, vi, 237.

Filicic Acid.—Pure filicic acid (the active principle of male fern, and which forms the greater part of the deposit in the extract) melts at 213°–215°. It has the formula $C_{15}H_{10}O_5$. According to recent investigations it has one of the two following constitutions:—



Some of its derivatives are briefly discussed in a short paper by Boehn.—*Pharm. Zeit.*, 1899, 573.

Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSER.

NO COMPROMISE is a policy which appeals to the sympathies of a good many people. It is both logical and heroic, and the orator who nails his colours to the mast, burns his bridges, and announces his intention to fight to the last ditch and the last biscuit, may rely on an encouraging cheer at least. But what of the enemy who does not care a straw about all your heroics, has no intention of fighting, and wonders what your threats are all about? That is about where we pharmacists are just now on this company question. The committee which lately proposed to deal with company-pharmacy among many other abuses of company-law, at first declined to entertain the request of pharmacists that they would handle this subject. It was apparently on the representation of the Lord Chancellor that the Pharmacy and Medical clauses were added to the Bill, and, no doubt, the promoters of the measure would still listen with attention to any reasonable suggestions for modifying their clause from delegates who could speak for the persons concerned. But if instead of temperate argument they get only bluster and impossible claims, they will not fight us.

* * * * *

THEY WILL SIMPLY IGNORE US.—That is the danger. The Lord Chancellor and Lord Dudley will consult and will come to the conclusion that the original resolution of the Committee not to attempt to meddle in this matter was the wiser one. They will say, "Let these chemists bring in their own Bill; we cannot afford to burden this Company-Bill with the settlement of a dispute which seems to us so trivial, but which is evidently highly contentious." It will be a pity if rash counsels are to prevail. We have professed to hunger for an opportunity to get our grievance on to the floor of Parliament for twenty years past, and we waste every opportunity of doing it. This is very likely our final chance, for a Pharmacy Bill of our own, to accomplish what our irreconcilables demand, is just a dream and will never be anything more.

* * * * *

TWO THINGS might be asked for in reason: first, the restriction of our titles to those who have earned them; and second, that if a company must carry on a chemist's business, and "keep open shop for the sale of poisons," its directors, that is to say, its really responsible managers, shall be qualified. Nobody who has any respect for the rights of property—and the Lords are not generally regarded as deficient in this respect—could resist the former claim; and the latter one is only carrying out effectively the Lord Chancellor's own proposition. The advantage, from the chemists' point of view, is that the scheme, while it looks like a compromise, would accomplish all we want, and would not interfere with the legitimate application of the limited-liability principle to pharmacy in cases where it might be useful.

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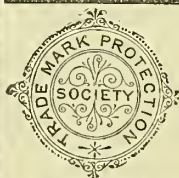
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Something has Happened.

It is not much, but it is momentous. The Pharmaceutical
 Council met in Bloomsbury Square on Wednesday, and
 actually sent back a report by the Law and Parliamentary
 Committee on the company question. It was not a report
 that any committee could be excessively proud of, but that is
 little compared with the fact that the councillors have actually

dared to discuss in public a question of paramount public importance. That this should have happened is evidence either of a new spirit in the Council or the acuteness of the question under discussion. The former explanation must undoubtedly stand. We welcome the new spirit as a circumstance which is fraught with benefit to British pharmacy, and as one which does the councillors credit, since it shows that they are not afraid to let their constituents know their opinions. It is all the more creditable owing to the fact that councillors have never been so pestered as they have been during this year by irresponsible letter-writers, some of whom lack that courtesy which should always accompany pharmaceutical controversy. To timid representatives nothing is more embarrassing than public debate; the dread of "giving the show away," the fear of private reprisal and public comment are sufficient to inspire solicitude for the privacy of committee. The experience of the world of government is that that spirit is a public evil; therefore we applaud the new departure in the Council, and hope it will be retained in regard to all matters in which trade interests are seriously involved.

Turning to the point of the debate, it will be remembered that at the last meeting of the Council, after a discussion in the course of which the policy of last Session was the chief topic, the Law Committee was instructed to draft a clause dealing with company-pharmacy, for inclusion in the Companies Bill. The clause drafted was as follows:—

No company shall carry on the business of a chemist and druggist, or assume or use the title pharmaceutical chemist, or pharmacist, or pharmacist, or chemist and druggist, or chemist, or druggist, or dispensing chemist or druggist, or any title implying registration under the Pharmacy Acts. And if any company contravenes this enactment it shall be liable to the same penalties as incurred in the case of those individuals under the Pharmacy Acts.

No sooner was this made public on Wednesday than it became apparent that it was not backed by "a unanimous Council"—it could not be, seeing that it was substantially a reiteration of the old idea which the Lord Chancellor scorned last Session. Then there was unusual manoeuvring for the start, and the way in which the skippers played their crafts was exceedingly pretty. Mr. Glyn-Jones, who appeared to have charge of the challenger, got away first, but this so disconcerted his opponent that he came back to line and a fresh start was made. Helped by a few strong breezes, the challenger ultimately came in well ahead of company-negation. So the committee are to deal with the whole matter over again. Thus the debate; but what of the principles involved? We strongly advise every man in the trade, be he an uncompromising opponent of company-pharmacy or a diplomatic pharmaceutical reformer, to read every word of the report, which we have given very fully. The discussion was one which is likely to be historic; it is more, for it reveals as well as speech can the sincerity of the men who are endeavouring by different methods to remove the black spot from our pharmacy-law; and it further shows that those who opposed the Law Committee's clause are desirous above all things to treat this matter in a business-like way. They made it plain that the principle of the committee's clause had their sympathy; but since the Lord Chancellor has already declined to accept it as an amendment to his own proposition, it is the duty of the Pharmaceutical Council to prepare another amendment, else the opportunity of any reform in the direction desired by chemists and druggists will be lost. That is the danger, as we have repeatedly said. The minority of the Council do not appear to recognise that they should attack the immediate danger rather than defend the abstract principle.

Nothing was more instructive in the discussion than the

attitude of the presidents. Mr. Carteighe, as the occupier of the chair for fourteen of the twenty years in which company-pharmacy has grown from a little thing to a tremendous organisation, cannot be relieved from a large measure of the responsibility for that unchecked growth; yet we find him *now* supporting a proposal for reform which his experience must tell him is beyond the range of practical politics. His two successors in the chair were not with him. Mr. Hills, relieved from the responsibilities of office, did not hesitate to express his determination to deal with the question in a business-like way; and Mr. Martindale, in his difficult, almost judicial, position in the chair, did credit to his reputation by declining to make the tie of office a pretext for supporting a course which he could not conscientiously believe was for the benefit of the trade.

Chemists' Risks.

WE report two cases this week in our legal columns in which chemists have been compelled to give compensation under somewhat unusual circumstances, and a third where action was taken. The more interesting case is that of Mr. John Spanton, of Malton, in Yorkshire, who is alleged to have given 8 gr. of atropine instead of as much antifebrin. The details of the case clearly indicate that personal feeling had been introduced into the matter as between Mr. Spanton and a medical practitioner, who was called upon to attend the boy alleged to be poisoned. That is not a good thing in any case, but worst of all in law. Apart from that, there are extraordinary features in the case which cannot pass without comment. For example, it passes our comprehension to understand how a young man could take 8 gr. of atropine and be alive twelve hours later, no antidotes having in the meantime been administered, which is exactly what happened to the lad, for he took the powder on Sunday evening, and it was not until Monday morning that a woman gave him an emetic. The medical treatment was in the first instance directed towards the elimination of what remained of the truly Yorkshire meals, which the patient had the day before, then came the difference of opinion and the diagnosis of atropine-poisoning. The case, as presented to the Court, was complicated by the side issues and the introduction of an allegation that the chemist had infringed the Apothecaries Act; and it ended by the chemist having to pay the lad 10*l.* damages. We do not think this would have happened if the defence had made a more searching cross-examination of the medical witnesses in regard to the symptoms of atropine poisoning; but, in extenuation of that, it must be admitted that chemists in country districts are very badly placed in regard to expert scientific evidence, and that is where the P.A.T.A., with its proposed defence fund, ought to score. The case of Mr. T. F. Shephard, the Fulham pharmacist who so lately successfully defended himself in the charge of inaccurate dispensing, emphasises this. He has had to pay a girl 25*l.* compensation for illegal imprisonment under circumstances which justified action on his part. In his dispensing case Mr. Shephard's professional knowledge enabled him to formulate a successful defence; but in the alleged-theft case, through lack of knowledge of police-court formalities—for a charge once made must be persevered with or formally withdrawn—he allowed a prisoner to be discharged. Thus he was changed from the aggrieved to the aggrieving party. In a letter to us about the matter Mr. Shephard gives his *confrères* this bit of advice:—

Never charge a person while in the shop; wait till they get outside, otherwise they can raise the plea that they intended to

pay for the article. Do not charge them unless you are willing to attend the remand. If circumstances arise that you cannot attend on the remand, write to the sitting magistrate.

A "Corner" in Orris-root.

THE rapid advance in orris-root which took place last week no doubt came as a surprise to many on the London market, and, as usual, there were some who had no faith in such an upheaval in prices at a time when there was comparatively little demand for the article, and the utter stagnation and abnormally low prices which have prevailed for two years. Of course there are a few who express regret that they were not apprised of the move in time, but it is proverbial, especially with regard to Italian orris-root dealers, that their reports should always be taken *cum grano salis*. On this occasion they thought the position was not justified in warranting them to get in well at the beginning. It is now rather late in the day to undertake a speculation, so they prefer to be onlookers. The whole movement is attributed to heavy purchases made by a large bank in Florence on account of a French manufacturer, and he has now "cornered" about two-thirds of the available stock in Italy. This object accomplished, he immediately raised his prices by at least 50 per cent., and now will not part with any under 80s. per cwt. for picked Florentine, and 70s. for "sorts." Immediately these facts became known there was a rush to buy here, and prices stiffened considerably, few holders being willing to sell. Early in the week the following were the quotations from three different sources—viz., 54s. 6d., 60s., and 65s., c.i.f., an advance of 15s. to 20s. on the old rates. On Tuesday, 60s. c.i.f., was paid for picked, and 53s. for Florentine "sorts."

To show the demoralised state of this market prior to the advance, we may mention that only a month or six weeks ago selected Florentine root was purchased at the extremely low figure of 27s. 6d., c.i.f., in one quarter, and in another at 33s. On the other hand, there are small holders whose present stock, purchased three years ago, cost them considerably more—say, 60s. to 70s.—and they are not yet inclined to part with their dearly-bought goods at the moment, preferring to hold on a little longer in expectation of still realising a profit.

It is difficult to give an estimate of the quantity of orris produced in Italy, as no official statistics are kept, but those who are in a position to know give it as their opinion that the Florentine crop is usually from 250 to 300 tons, while the Verona district produces from 200 to 300 tons a year.

One of our correspondents in Leghorn, writing on the situation, says:—

Last year prices ruled very low without even fluctuating, owing to abundant crop and sluggish demand, and it was generally believed that the new crop which comes on the market about the end of August would sell at still lower figures. But about this time the most important producers in the Verona district formed a ring, and began to buy up all root offered, and as soon as they had secured the larger part of the crop, raised prices about 100 per cent., and succeeded in booking orders at these figures for considerable quantities. So far as Verona root is concerned we can hardly expect to see lower prices for some time to come.

The position in the Florence district is somewhat similar, only in this case the speculation has been entirely conducted by one buyer, who is supposed to be acting for one of the most important banks in Italy. We do not know whether the producers, who during the last years did not find prices remunerative, were the instigators of this speculation. We can only surmise that this had been one of the reasons that induced the bank to come to the producers' assistance. Having large capitals disposable the bank has bought nearly nine-tenths of the new crop, and what remained in first hands of last year's production, and has been assisted in these purchases by the almost total absence of demand from abroad. Prices have gradually risen, and whilst, at the beginning of the campaign, good sorts could be bought at

about Lit. 60.-p. 100 ks., to-day Lit. 115. is asked for the small lots still in producers' hands. We learn that the bank intends to keep the root for the present, and to realise the same only if prices can be forced up to the level attained a few years ago, when up to Lit. 300. were paid for 100 ks. Florentine sorts. Whether their expectations will be realised is difficult to say, however, there is one thing in their favour. Stocks abroad are rather small and brisk demand is anticipated from France, our largest customer.

The quantity of this year's crop may be estimated at about 400 to 500 tons in the Verona district, and about 700 to 800 tons in the Florentine. Next year's crop is expected to be considerably smaller, owing to the fact that with the present high prices a considerable quantity of two-year-old root has been excavated, which, in ordinary circumstances, would have been left untouched to grow the full three years, which is the normal time for the root to become fully developed.

The quality has turned out this year fairly good, perhaps owing to want of rain at the proper time not so bulky as last few years, but on the average the crop is fairly good-sized.

We have ample corroboration of the foregoing from other sources.

Seychelles Pharmacy-law.

AN ordinance recently promulgated for the regulation of the practice of pharmacy in the Seychelles, contains one or two points for the consideration of our pharmaceutical legislators. It enacts that the preparation and sale of medicines, except by pharmacists, is prohibited. Pharmacists must possess either the pharmaceutical qualifications of the United Kingdom, the Apothecaries' licence, a diploma from a foreign university or college, or must hold diplomas or commissions entitling them to practise pharmacy in Mauritius, India, any British colony, or the French colony of Réunion, subject to the acceptance of the Administrator of that dependency. Duly authorised medical practitioners—provided they do not keep open shop and if there exists no pharmacist's shop within three miles of their own or their patients' residence—and medical men in charge of dispensaries, are exempt. Licensed traders may sell patent or proprietary medicines as imported provided they furnish beforehand a list of the articles to be sold, to the Government medical officer. The same rule applies to medicines approved by any foreign medical academy; mineral waters and their salts; and all simple medicinal substances, except poisons, if sold in quantities of not less than 1 lb. weight, or 1 imperial pint by measure. Quinine may be imported and sold in not less than $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. bottles. The Administrator may prohibit the sale of any patent or proprietary which it may be expedient for the safety of the public not to allow to be sold.

Pharmacists are forbidden to make, mix, prepare, compound, or dispense any medicine or medicinal preparation except according to a physician's prescription, or in accordance with the B.P. or any codex or legal formulary of foreign countries. Secret remedies, with the exception of the patent medicines before-mentioned, are prohibited unless the composition and mode of preparation be confidentially disclosed to the Government medical officer and duly authorised by the Administrator. Pharmacists may not practise any branch of medicine or surgery, nor may they sell any other articles than drugs, medicines, and surgical and medical appliances. The Government medical officer has power to inspect from time to time the shop or store of every pharmacist, to see that the regulations are carried out; and all drugs or medicines found to be stale, unwholesome, or unfit for use, and all secret and unauthorised remedies, may be seized and destroyed and the erring one fined. A fine for adulteration is also provided for, the same rules for inspection and punishment applying to traders, and any pharmacist, his assistant, or apprentice, who shall disclose the composition of any prescription which he may have dispensed (except for the ends of justice), shall be liable to a fine.

The poisons-schedule is practically the same as that of 1868 without the additions since, but the regulations are more stringent. None of the scheduled poisons can be dispensed or sold except upon the written order of a qualified medical practitioner, and each poison or preparation must have a "poison" label, with the name and address of the seller and directions for its use. Before sale or delivery is effected the name, address, and profession of the purchaser must be entered into the poisons-book, along with the name and quantity of the poison sold, the date of delivery, and the name of the prescriber. Pharmacists, dispensers, or medical practitioners failing to comply with the latter provisions may either be fined 500r., or be imprisoned for six months. Principals in each case will be responsible for the violations of their assistants. Wholesale dealers are exempt, but they also are required to use "poison" labels. A proviso states that these regulations do not apply to the laws prevailing in the Dependency relative to the sale or possession of ganja, Indian hemp, stramonium, or opium.

A HOLIDAY TASK.

There is an article in the current number of the *Nineteenth Century* by the ex-editor of this journal, entitled "Cricket in 1899; the Valuation of Drawn Matches." It is of a statistical and not of a sporting character, and expounds the method of estimating every match, finished or unfinished, for the purposes of the County Championship table. Mr. Wootton, we may say, is an ardent cricketer, and has long been a member of the Surrey Club. In our office matches we could always reckon upon him to hit up a 50 or so well within the hour, and one part of our loss through his retirement is his vigorous bat.

PECULIAR POINTS ABOUT POISONS.

The *Lancet* returns to the poisonous-proprietary-medicine question, and makes some extraordinary errors in regard to poison-law. In the first place it alleges—what is very often said, but has never been proved by actual experiment—that laudanum can be bought from chemists in quantities sufficient to kill families. Then our contemporary says poisons in "B Division" of the Poisons Schedule (there is no such thing, Part 2 being meant) have to be sold in dark bottles—another error—and concludes by saying:

We can see but one available remedy—namely, that the preparations of opium should be treated as forms of a dangerous poison and their sale governed by the reasonable restrictions provided under Schedule A of the Act without regard for proprietary objections.

Our contemporary has forgotten the part which the late Mr. Ernest Hart played in having proprietary medicines treated exactly like others, and its remarks are so elementary that we seriously advise a perusal of our "Pharmacy and Poison Laws" as needful to prevent further exposure of unfamiliarity with the subject. Schedule A is the whole poison-schedule, and it is divided into Parts 1 and 2.

SHIPS' MEDICINE-CHESTS.

We are pleased to notice that the Sunderland Chemists' Association have addressed the Board of Trade in regard to the manner in which ships are supplied with medicines. Mr. R. H. Bell, Hon. Sec. of the Association, sends us a copy of the letter, which is in the following terms:—

GENTLEMEN,—I am instructed by the members of the above Association to draw your attention to the necessity of some means being adopted to secure that ships proceeding to sea shall be supplied with medicine, surgical instruments, and appliances, according to the regulations of your Board.

It is within the knowledge of many of our members that at present these regulations are largely disregarded, and that ships are sent to sea in which the medicines are not only deficient in quantity but also of very inferior quality. Having regard to

the importance of proper provision being made in this respect, and to the fact that the owners and masters of vessels have rarely the skill necessary to enable them to ascertain if this has been done, we respectfully suggest that competent inspectors be appointed for this purpose, and that such inspectors shall have passed the qualifying examination of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

I am,
Yours respectfully,
ROBT. H. BELL (Hon. Sec.).

This is not a bit too strong, and none too soon. About twenty years ago ship-owners and ship-captains regarded their medicine-chests with wholesome respect, and it was only occasionally that they thought of putting them out to contract; but there has been marked deterioration since then, so that now many chests are fitted in the cheapest possible way, and all sorts of dodges are resorted to in order to make the chests conform in letter with the official sales. In consequence many chemists have ceased to look after this trade, which means not only competition in price but sacrifice of the best principles of good pharmacy. The appointment of pharmaceutical inspectors at the principal ports in the Kingdom is a suggestion well worth consideration.

A WEED-KILLER WANTED.

The American weed *Elodea canadensis* is still troubling anglers in Loch Leven. None of the experts have hitherto been able to devise a means of extirpating the unwelcome plant, and a harmless weed-killer is still a-wanting. Professor Bayley Balfour, reporting on the plant some time ago, said that "its eradication was a matter of extreme difficulty, while its growth must interfere very greatly with the fishing." Sir Herbert Maxwell is of opinion that the weed should be allowed to run its course and exhaust the soil. The only gleam of hope left for the anxious angler lies in the fact that the plant, it is said, is dioecious. It does not seed in this country, only the female plant being found. Cannot some inventive pharmacist evolve an anti-elodea compound from his inner consciousness? It is the opportunity of a lifetime.

SEWAGE-TREATMENT.

Dr. Frank Clowes has just laid before the London County Council his second report on the bacterial treatment of crude sewage. This particular report deals with the experimental intermittent treatment of crude sewage at Crossness. The method has been to fill the coke beds with sewage until the coke is just submerged, allowing the sewage to remain in contact with the coke for several hours, and finally draining the liquid away completely. The coke is then allowed to remain for some time in contact with the air, and the process repeated at regular intervals. The effluent is not by any means free from bacteria, but is sweet, free from smell, transparent, and fish live and thrive in it for an indefinite time. Dr. A. C. Houston reports on the bacteriological aspect of the question. He points out that the term "biological" as applied to the treatment of sewage by natural processes is rather misleading. It only implies the endeavour to obtain under control results similar to those which are constantly being produced in nature and to employ processes which have been in operation for ages. The sewage contains in itself all the organisms necessary for its decomposition and final purification, and the whole question is to discover the best and most practical way of allowing this natural process to take place by the action of the bacteria without nuisance or danger. The conclusions arrived at by the experimenters point out several advantages of bacterial over chemical treatment of sewage, and pave the way for the question which must ultimately be faced—are the advantages gained by chemical purification sufficiently great to outweigh the possible danger arising from the discharge of an effluent bacteriologically unsound into the river Thames.

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

COUNCIL-MEETING.

An exceptionally long meeting, at which the Law and Parliamentary Committee brought up an impossible report on the company-question, which, after a long discussion, was referred back to the Committee.

At the meeting on Wednesday, November 1, the following members were present:—Mr. Martindale (President), Mr. Newsholme (Vice-President), Mr. Atkins (Treasurer), and Messrs. Allen, Bateson, Carteighe, Cross, Glyn-Jones, Grose, Harrington, Harrison, Hills, Park, Savory, Symes, Warren, and Young.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read by Mr. CHATER, in the absence of Mr. Bremridge, who, however, took his place beside the President shortly after the proceedings began. The PRESIDENT, having read a letter of regret from Mr. Corder at his absence through ill-health, proceeded to read various letters of thanks for sympathy from Mr. T. E. Greenish, Mr. Allen, and Mr. Bremridge.

DEATHS.

The PRESIDENT said they had received intimation of the death of one of their corresponding members, Dr. Adolphe Ernst, of Caracas. When he (the President) was in Caracas, about eight or nine months ago, he called upon Professor Ernst, but was unfortunate not to find him at home. The deceased gentleman took a great interest in botany, especially in regard to pharmacy. It was with regret also that he announced the death of Mr. C. F. Bevan, of Harwich, who had been a local secretary of the Society for close upon half a century, and during that long period he had filled the position very much to their credit and satisfaction. It was a loss to them that his services were no longer at their disposal, and it was only due to such a man that they should acknowledge the Society's indebtedness for the unswerving support which he had given them for half a century. (Hear, hear.)

NEW MEMBERS AND ASSOCIATES.

On the motion of Mr. PARK, seconded by Mr. GROSE, sixteen new members—one of whom was a lady—were duly elected. There were also elected two student-associates, and two persons were restored to the register.

BENEVOLENT FUND.

The VICE-PRESIDENT, in moving the report of the Benevolent Fund, intimated that six grants had been made during the past month—one of 5*l.*, two of 10*l.* each, two of 13*l.*, and one of 20*l.* There was one other case considered besides those mentioned, but it had been referred back for further consideration. The report was seconded by Mr. ATKINS, and passed.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

The PRESIDENT, in moving the adoption of the report, stated that it was in about the usual form for this month, but there was nothing particular to come in. They were not receiving nor putting out very large sums. The report showed the following balances:—

	£	s.	d.
General Fund Account	1,775	19	9
Benevolent Fund Account	802	7	0
Donation Account	753	11	5
Orphan Fund Account	234	18	0

There was submitted for payment a sum of 1,831*l.* 13*s.* 11*d.* from the General Fund Account, the chief items being:—Repairs, 377*l.* 5*s.*; electric-lighting installation, 238*l.*; *Journal*, 493*l.* 12*s.* 6*d.*; Scotland, 150*l.*

The report was adopted.

LIBRARY COMMITTEE.

The SECRETARY read the usual figures with regard to the attendances at the Library and Museum during the past month, and intimated that the Curator had been authorised

to purchase a special collection of drugs from Mincing Lane for the Museum, and to have a special cabinet and some shelves erected for the same purpose. It was also asked that the materia-medica section might be extended in order to show the distinctive characters of the drugs. On the annual examination of books in the Library it was found that several were missing, but not more than was usual.

The EDITOR attended the Committee and submitted a scheme for the publication of special issues of the *Journal* during 1900.

Mr. CARTEIGHE, replying to a question of Mr. Sonthall's, intimated that very likely the books missing from the Library had become accidentally mixed with the personal books of a student. He remembered one occasion where a distinguished member of the Council had some of the books belonging to the Library for something like seven years. He did not know that he had them himself, and the books were not discovered until after his death.

Diplomas were granted to ten candidates who had passed the Major examination.

NEW DIVISIONAL SECRETARY.

The PRESIDENT announced that Mr. Walker, Divisional Secretary for St. George's-in-the-East, had moved out of the district; and Mr. J. H. Smith, of 267 Commercial Road, E., was appointed to fill the vacancy.

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATIONS.

The SECRETARY, in reading the reports of the numbers with reference to this examination out of the different sections, intimated that there were three more examinations before the Preliminary would be stopped. He also reported that a letter had been received from a gentleman in Scotland mentioning some certificates which he wished to have submitted to the Council for their approval in lieu of the Preliminary examination. The writer suggested that they were certificates which would be accepted under the new régime, and he wished the Council to anticipate matters in this instance.

The PRESIDENT suggested that the matter should be laid before the Board of Examiners for their consideration, and this was agreed to.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The PRESIDENT announced that a letter had been received from Mr. A. A. Porteous (Lerwick), urging that that place should be made a centre for the Preliminary examination. Referred to the Library and House Committee.

A letter from the Grimsby and District chemists conveyed an intimation that the Association desired to endorse the resolution passed by the Dewsbury Chemists' District Association.

There was also a circular from the British Association Committee inviting members to a general committee which it is contemplated forming with reference to the Paris Exhibition. Referred to the Library Committee.

The Royal Societies Club wrote asking for notices of the Society's meetings and copies of the *Journal*. Also referred.

The Hull Chemists' Association drew attention to the question of laying the scheduling of

CARBOLIC ACID

before the Privy Council. This matter, said the PRESIDENT, was, as they knew, still before the Privy Council, and he had every reason to believe that it was under consideration and would shortly be acted upon.

A resolution from the Bradford and District Chemists' Association had been received, urging the desirability of promoting legislation for the protection of titles and extending the scope of the poison-schedules; also of adopting the proposals set forth by the Vice-President in reference to local-secretary organisation.

The North-East Lancashire Association wrote expressing the opinion that companies could not use the title or legally retail or dispense scheduled poisons. Referred to the Law and Parliamentary Committee.

A LEGACY.

The PRESIDENT: We have a report from our Solicitor with regard to the Waterall legacy of 1,000*l.*, who recommended that it should be accepted. There were certain conditions

that it was necessary to carry out with reference to the legacy as to keeping it as a separate fund, and this might entail a good deal of administrative attention on the part of the Society. The Solicitor said, however, that there would be no difficulty in carrying this out.

A MEMBER: This is the Nottingham case?

The PRESIDENT: Yes; the Nottingham case.

Mr. CARTEIGHE: I believe I was one of those who were asked to read that document, and we decided to accept the legacy. The conditions were rather peculiar, but the intention of the donor being benevolent we could not resist it. I hope that in the case of any other of our brethren making their wills they will not impose too many conditions with regard to any legacies in connection with the Benevolent Fund.

A REQUEST FROM MALTA.

The PRESIDENT moved, and Mr. HILLS seconded the motion, that the Board of Examiners be ordered to accept in lieu of the Preliminary examination the matriculation certificate of the Malta University, and this was agreed to.

Company-pharmacy.

The SECRETARY read the minutes of the Law and Parliamentary Committee, which had since last Council-meeting held two meetings. A sub-committee had been appointed, and in due course had delivered their report. The following is the clause which the committee had drafted and submitted to the Council for embodiment in the Companies Bill:—

No company shall carry on the business of a chemist and druggist, or assume or use the title pharmaceutical chemist, or pharmacist, or pharmacist, or chemist and druggist, or chemist, or druggist, or dispensing chemist or druggist, or other title implying registration under the Pharmacy Acts. And if any company contravenes this enactment it shall be liable to the same penalties as those incurred in the case of individuals under the Pharmacy Acts.

The PRESIDENT: You have the minutes here before you, and it is proposed by Mr. GLYN-JONES, and seconded by Mr. HILLS, that the report of the Law and Parliamentary Committee be received and referred back for further consideration. (Interruption, and expressions of dissent.)

Mr. GLYN-JONES said there was no other resolution put to the meeting, and he took it that it was open to any member of the Council to move that a certain course should be taken in regard to this report—that it should be adopted or not adopted.

Mr. CARTEIGHE said it was the President's duty to move that the report of the committee be adopted before any amendment could be put.

Mr. GLYN-JONES said he would like to know on what ground his motion was objected to. Was there a resolution of the Council which covered that particular case that he could not make a resolution? If Mr. Carteighe said there was, there was an end of it.

Dr. SYMES understood Mr. Glyn-Jones moved the acceptance of the report.

The VICE-PRESIDENT said they were taken quite by surprise.

Dr. SYMES: We have been taken by surprise before. (Laughter.)

Mr. CARTEIGHE: The President must ask if anyone present will move the adoption of the report.

Mr. GLYN-JONES wanted to know if this was necessary. He moved that the report be received, and was proceeding to speak, when

Mr. YOUNG remarked that the motion contained a condition which they did not discuss at the committee the night before.

Mr. GLYN-JONES said he understood that, and he moved that the report be received, and then he would go on to move that they should not adopt it. They were not bound to adopt a report of the committee.

Mr. CARTEIGHE wanted to know on what grounds Mr. GLYN-JONES was asked to move this in preference to any other member of the Council.

Mr. GLYN-JONES: I asked to be allowed to move it.

The PRESIDENT thereupon moved that the report of the Law and Parliamentary Committee be received.

Mr. GLYN-JONES: The President moves that, and I think it

clears the ground. I will second it. (Laughter.) Whereupon Mr. RYMER YOUNG remarked

"WE DON'T KNOW WHERE WE ARE."

After further discussion the PRESIDENT moved that the report of the Law and Parliamentary Committee be received, and this was seconded by Mr. GLYN-JONES.

The VICE-PRESIDENT said he had not the least hesitancy in moving that the report of the Committee be received and adopted. The President had his own views on this subject—following other members of the Council; but there was one matter in connection with the clause on which the whole of the Council were agreed, and it was that the Council would do its utmost to defend their registered titles. (Hear, hear.) The Vice-President then read the clause, and, continuing, said he thought that they ought to be agreed upon the other point with reference to the selling of poisons by limited companies. He would like to ask members, How was their position altered from what it was in 1852 or 1868? Certain principles were in those days laid down that for the safety and protection of the public certain individuals should pass examinations. In 1868 it was laid down that for the purpose of keeping open shop for retailing poisons certain men should pass examinations for the safety of the public. They had had during the last twenty years or more a great deal of worry and anxiety in connection with company-pharmacy, but he, as a pharmacist, maintained that, although it had been a terrible curse to the chemists and pharmacists of this country, it was not a proper thing to do to climb down in face of opposition. They were there as true representatives of the chemists of the country. He himself was placed in rather an awkward position, and it would be better for him to speak out. They knew that it was felt by some members of their body that there should be some form of regulation of company-pharmacy. It was not the duty of the Council of that Society to recommend or regulate company-pharmacy at all. (Hear, hear.) They did not believe that it was right for a company to use their titles or carry on business as they were entitled by law to do. (Hear, hear.) There were a number of men throughout the country to whom this company-trading was a veritable curse. They knew that there were certain individuals in connection with their own body who, for their own convenience and comfort, thought it desirable that they should form limited companies to employ their capital; but whatever might be useful for those gentlemen they (the Council) should remember that they were representing the great mass of chemists of the country—men who were known by their title, and who intended to use it as a safeguard to the public. The sooner they could get back to the restriction laid down in 1868 the better for themselves and the better for the public; whilst they must maintain to the utmost the use of the titles by qualified individuals, they must at the same time try to do their utmost to promote any condition of business or trade of those who held the qualification.

A REVERSAL OF THE MOTIONS.

Mr. GLYN-JONES rose to a point of order, and suggested, with the President's permission, that his motion should be withdrawn, and that the Vice-President's amendment be allowed to stand as a substantive resolution, so that he (Mr. Glyn-Jones) might be able to move an amendment to it.

The PRESIDENT: The resolution takes the place of the amendment.

Mr. YOUNG: What is the resolution? It has not yet been read.

The PRESIDENT then read the resolution over again, and said that the clause had been drawn up the previous evening, and they were no doubt aware that the committee themselves were a good deal divided.

Mr. CARTEIGHE said if the President were speaking as a matter of discussion, he would not be allowed to speak again.

The PRESIDENT intimated that he withdrew his principal motion, and it was decided that the Vice-President's resolution, seconded by Mr. Atkins, be accepted as a substantive motion.

THE DEFENDER OF THE CITADEL.

Mr. ATKINS said he would speak very briefly, and he did so under a sense of very great responsibility. He had

attended the Council now for many years, and had taken part in some very anxious times; but he told them frankly that he never felt a greater sense of responsibility than he did at that moment. He did not think it was any use saying very much there, for the reason that he did not think they could influence each other. He did not think one need say much to influence the country—the pharmaceutical country; there had been times when that country had required education in crises and upon great constitutional questions, but if he could in any degree read the pulse of the country through correspondence that he had received during the past month, which had perfectly startled him in quantity and character, then, he said, the country, as far as he could read it, did not require any education upon this point. (Hear, hear.)

There were two points for which they ought to fight to the bitter end. The first was the protection of titles. (Hear, hear.) He believed they were unanimously agreed upon that, but what he contended for was that companies must be placed in the same position as individuals. Nothing less than that would satisfy him. He was not so depressed upon this question as some of his brethren were; they regarded it as unavoidable that they should surrender. He did not admit until it was brought home to him officially that they were absolutely denied what he deemed to be justice—righteousness. He meant by that “right” as he interpreted it. He could not yet believe that Government departments would, if they were properly educated—properly instructed by the Council, who knew what pharmaceutical laws and what pharmaceutical ethics were—he could not believe those departments would refuse what they asked. Until they did so he would remain hopeful. When they had been refused by Parliament, what he would be prepared to do would be to go through the country and stir the members to ask for fresh legislation. If existing legislation was against them—if the Government department would not move to alter that legislation—then he would simply go through the country and rouse it to action to defend their right. The case, he knew, would be very ably argued on the other side, which he deeply regretted. (Laughter.) He more deeply regretted that they were not all of one mind. He had not the vanity, at his advanced age, to claim anything for his opinion or experience, but he did wish they had been of one mind and one opinion there. Nothing else than the protection of title and the placing of companies under the same conditions absolutely and entirely would satisfy him.

Mr. GLYN-JONES said he would like now to be allowed to move his amendment.

The PRESIDENT said the amendment was that the report of the Law and Parliamentary Committee be received, but that it be referred back to that committee for further consideration.

THE CASE FOR RECONSIDERATION.

Mr. GLYN-JONES said that he moved that as an amendment. He could not at all understand why the Treasurer, who had just spoken, should in any way oppose that amendment, because he thought that as a matter of principle every member of that Council was agreed that there should be one and the same law for individuals and companies. (Hear, hear.) He took it that that was what Mr. Atkins said. He thought he was right in explaining that he moved the amendment to the motion with a good deal more assurance than otherwise would have been the case if the report which they had received from the Law and Parliamentary Committee had been in any way unanimous. He further said that it was a report only of a section of the committee, and that fact gave them good reason for asking the Council to refer the matter back. What did this resolution pledge them to do? The resolution said that no company should carry on the business of a chemist and druggist, or use the title. Those of them who took the view that that was going too far took care in committee to ascertain what the gentlemen who were in favour of that action meant by it. They were told that they meant exactly what they said—that no company was to carry on the business, or use the title, of chemist and druggist. Now the Council were invited to ask the Government to make it illegal for all companies to use the title (with which he quite agreed), and also to prevent them carrying on the business. What was their present position? First of all

they had two members of that Council who, if that became law, would have to close their businesses as they at present stood. They were to ask the Government to declare to be illegal

THE CONDUCT OF MEN ON THAT COUNCIL,

and others on their list of local secretaries, who also were guilty of this great iniquity. Before they could go to the Government he maintained they should remove the names of Dr. Symes, Mr. Southall, Mr. Reynolds, Mr. Woolley, and others from the list of their members. If it was wrong that these people should carry on the business of chemist and druggist—and their resolution said it would be—how could they allow them to remain on their register of members? They had a right to refuse them as members. Why didn't they? If they meant what they said, let them start by putting their own house in order. But they did not; they went to Government to say, “We will have no company-pharmacy.” If he had the slightest hope that such a thing would be made law he would hold both hands up for it. It would be in the interests of the whole trade that it should be done; but he would ask that any member of the Council who voted for this resolution should be prepared to see that he had a reasonable hope that it would be accepted by the Government. Unless they had that hope they were doing a wrong to all their members. It was unfair to put the clause forward when they had not a reasonable chance of success. It had been argued that the Council took up in May the position that they laid down by the resolution—namely, that a company should be prohibited from using titles or practising—and they asked the Lord Chancellor to introduce these things into a Bill. What had been the result? They had had a mere acknowledgment of their suggestion, but further than that they had not heard directly from the Government. What had taken place since? The Lord Chancellor (he wanted to emphasise this),

AFTER RECEIVING THEIR SUGGESTION,

brought in a Bill in which he said that a company might carry on a business and might use a title, even of pharmaceutical chemist, if they had a manager holding such a title. That should be accepted from the Lord Chancellor as the answer to their suggestions; but it was not all. That Bill had practically been abandoned, and what they, as the Council, had been striving for for years—to get into a Company Bill a clause dealing with company-pharmacy—had come to pass without their help. When the Government's Bill amending the Companies Acts was introduced the Lord Chancellor gave them to understand that he had had a number of communications on the subject of company-pharmacy. The Council's communication was no doubt one of these. He said “it was impossible to resist the propriety of subjecting those companies that were at present carrying on business as chemists and druggists to restrictions such as were proposed in the Bill.” What were the restrictions? That a company might carry on a business provided they had a qualified manager. Surely the Council did not think that was not a complete answer to their request that he should deal with the matter. He had dealt with it in a way that not a pharmaceutical chemist could accept without vigorous protest. He should be very sorry to disregard the opinion of their members, but he was not prepared to say that the majority would be with the Council in going to Parliament and asking them to make it impossible for any sort of company to carry on the business of a chemist and druggist or to use a title. It seemed to him that fate had somehow ordained that they should be able to test that feeling just before that Council-meeting. They had seen a good deal in their *Journal* from correspondents and others as to what they ought to do. He said again it appeared that fate had arranged that all this should come just at this time. (Laughter.)

A MEMBER: Newspaper fate?

Mr. GLYN-JONES: Yes. In their *Journal* of October 21 they had a paper by a gentleman who had not signed his name, and lo! and behold in the *Journal* of October 28 about eight or nine chemists rushed in, saying,

“BRAVO, ORDINARY PHARMACIST.”

Had these local secretaries read what “Ordinary Pharmacist” had since said? Practically every one of these corre-

spondents held him up as being the man that had the light. He (Mr. Glyn-Jones) claimed that that writer supported his resolution. "Ordinary Pharmacist" said that they ought to have this, that, and the other, and they knew it; but he thought he had found that certain awkward things had to be faced, and one of these was the fact that they had men in their own ranks running chemists' and druggists' businesses with unqualified shareholders, so "Ordinary Pharmacist" said "companies of duly-qualified persons need not be interfered with" (but they were going to interfere with them), "and even where, owing to family arrangements, part of the capital invested in such companies belongs to unqualified individuals, it ought not to be impossible to devise some generally satisfactory means of overcoming that difficulty." That was the proposal of this worthy gentleman. He (the Editor of the *Journal*) then continued to emphasise what his contributor has said, and he did not know what they were going to say to the Editor if they were going to accept the resolution of the committee. The Editor said—

But whatever the means devised, so long as unqualified persons are prevented from reaping advantage from the use of a pharmaceutical title, and they are exercising no control over the conduct of the business, no objection could be taken by pharmacists to the fact that the whole of the capital invested did not actually belong to persons registered under the Pharmacy Acts.

Their own Editor then told them that this resolution was of no use—that they must recognise. He went on to say much more strongly—

So far as the public safety is concerned, it is not of the least consequence who finds the capital with which a business is financed or, indeed, who obtains the profit: both are equally apposite to the question. But it is of the highest importance that no person without a proper legal qualification should be in a position to conduct the business or interfere with its control.

He (Mr. Glyn-Jones) did not think he could say anything better himself. (Laughter.)

They had to recognise that the principles of the 1868 Act must be absolutely maintained if they were going to the Government with what they proposed. In the case of Day's Southern Drug Company, he asked, who practically kept open shop? Was it the shareholders in the country? No; it was Mr. William Day, managing director, and the other directors associated with him, and he (Mr. Glyn-Jones) believed he was right in saying that it was pointed out in evidence before the committee that this was a case where the Legislature declared that that man was not qualified under the Act, to conduct the business, but through the Companies Act he was immediately qualified to conduct the business and to control qualified men. The Council had the right to insist that no one of the qualified men should become a servant of unqualified masters. He maintained that it made not a bit of difference whose money was used. What they had to consider was that in the interests of the public it was necessary that Government should place all shops where poisons were sold upon the basis of the 1868 Act.

There was only the thickness of a piece of paper between the two positions held that day, because the persons who practically did keep open shop for companies were not those who found the money, but persons who controlled the business. They should go to the Government and say that no company should exist unless the persons who absolutely conducted their business were qualified under the Pharmacy Act. It was his firm conviction, if all the capital invested in retail pharmacy

OWNED BY UNQUALIFIED PEOPLE

were withdrawn, they would shunt up a third of the pharmacies of this country. The capital was borrowed, perhaps, from their wholesale house, or from some person who was not qualified; and he saw no difference between that and the method in which company-machinery was used. Mr. Glyn-Jones proceeded to say that the Council had a dual capacity. It stood for the drug-trade as the General Medical Council stood in regard to the medical profession on the one hand, and on the other hand it stood in a position like the Medical Defence Union. It had to carry out the 1868 Pharmacy Act, and look after the interests of the members, and it was in the first capacity that it could go to the Government. If they were to defend their rights, or to uphold them as individuals,

their strong position was to show that what they asked for was in the interests of the public. Could they ask the Government to get Dr. Symes to stop his business in the interests of the public? Could they say of Reynolds & Branson that their shops should be closed in the interests of the public? That case would not survive three minutes' cross-examination by an independent M.P. He firmly believed all that they could reasonably ask, and all that they wanted, was that a man who came up to the Society and was plunged should not immediately go and qualify himself under the Companies Act. The point was that if it were necessary that a man should be qualified to conduct one shop it was necessary that he should have the same qualification to act as a director of many shops. There the thing had been for twenty years, and the pity of it was that the people who had controlled the affairs of that Society had not recognised it and dealt with it. It was twenty years at least too late to deal with it in the way now proposed. It was not for them to say they would not recognise companies. The Government had committed themselves to this, that some restriction on company-pharmacy was necessary. The only point of difference they could reasonably have with the Government was that the restriction did not go far enough, and what the Law Committee now asked was impossible. It was more than they had a right to ask for—(A voice: "No, no!")—on the ground that they could, in his opinion, all adopt other methods to make a very great step in the right direction. He admitted that the committee's proposal might be very well for the present, but if the Government refused them again their position was worse than ever so far as approaching the Government in future was concerned. He quite agreed with the Treasurer—what they wanted was protection of titles and the placing of companies upon the same footing as individuals. By that he meant allowing companies to employ money owned by unregistered people in the same way that they allowed individuals to employ money owned by unregistered people, but not to allow the unqualified—viz., those who financed companies—to take the position of unqualified partner. If they must put their money in pharmacy, they must put their pharmacies in the hands of qualified men. (Applause.)

THE EX-PRESIDENT SUPPORTS.

Mr. WALTER HILLS said he readily rose to second the amendment which he thought all his colleagues would agree had been most ably moved by Mr. Glyn-Jones—(hear, hear)—who had covered the ground so completely that it was almost impossible to follow him without wasting time. On that occasion, however, he thought it was right they should all speak out, and declare plainly, by speech or votes, their views on this important subject. He was sorry they were not more unanimous. While he had the honour of being their President he always tried as much as possible to get their differences of opinion in committee threshed out so that they might go with some unanimity of opinion to the Council. He did not wish it to be thought he criticised his successor. This subject was a difficult one, and a more thorny one than any during his presidency, and they recognised in committee the previous night that they were hopelessly divided into two camps. The subject should now be threshed out in open council so that they would know where they stood. He had read the article by "Ordinary Pharmacist," and at first he seemed to agree with it in every line, especially when he saw the letters of the local secretaries; but then he came finally to the second part of the article, where it stated that, although company-trading was altogether wrong, still, there could be means found in certain cases for getting round it. He thought they all agreed with the general remarks made by "Ordinary Pharmacist," but there was a question whether they agreed with his conclusion. The question divided itself into two parts: one was with reference to the protection of the title, and the other was in reference to the protection of trading. He thought, in the abstract, they were agreed on the first question. He had had an opinion expressed to him during the last month by a member of a company to which reference had been made that day—which they all agreed was carried on on excellent lines—that it would be undesirable to say that a limited company practically all the members of which were registered persons should not be allowed to use the title. They (the Council) were not absolutely at one on that question, but they did say that it was

reasonable that the title should be restricted to the individual and that limited companies should not use the titles. As to the much more important question as to trading, they found their own people all through the country putting up "drug-stores" and not using their titles; and it was not drug stores alone kept by qualified individuals that were doing the mischief, but cutting-prices were doing quite as much harm to the pharmacist as any of those things (Hear, hear.) When they went to the Lord Chancellor they took up the line proposed in the resolution, but now things were somewhat altered. Then the Lord Chancellor had made certain remarks that led them to believe that they might expect the same support from him, and possibly from the Government, in dealing with this thorny question. In order to obtain fresh legislation they must have the support of the Government—(hear, hear)—and there was also to be obtained the opinion of the great majority of their own people, otherwise there would be no legislation. In their propositions to the Lord Chancellor they left it to the representatives of the Government to frame, if possible, legislation somewhat on the suggested lines. The Lord Chancellor had not done anything more than simply acknowledge the receipt of the suggestions. He certainly made further sympathetic remarks, but the clause that they had before them now in the Companies Amendment Bill was one which did not recognise their suggestions in any way, and did not meet with their approval, or the views of registered persons throughout the country. (Hear, hear.) Were they going to knock their heads against the wall and put themselves in an untenable position, or were they going to see that they had been recognised as a body who should be included in the Companies Amendment Bill, and were going to try, as practical men, to help the Government to do something in their own interests and in the interests of the public? His view of the amendment was that they should send this matter back to the committee to be reconsidered. Mr. Glyn-Jones had said this action ought to have been taken twenty years ago. They could not go back twenty years: they were in the year 1899, and they had got to deal with things as they were. They saw companies on all sides of them, and the public were recognising those companies. He was speaking some time ago to an eminent member of the House of Commons—a Queen's Counsel—on this very point, and he said, in considering any matter of this kind, the members of the House of Commons would have two points before them, and be swayed by two considerations. The first was, What was for the public benefit and protection? and the second, What interferes with existing conditions? He agreed partly with what Mr. Glyn-Jones said. He believed that a certain amount of protection to the public would be furnished if there was a *bona fide* manager or director, with full control of the business. He did object to a qualified person being the servant of an unqualified person, and having to do what an unqualified person told him he must do. The second point mentioned by his friend was to interfere as little as possible with existing conditions. What were they? Some were very different now from what they were twenty years ago. The Lord Chancellor himself had taken the widows' clause as a sort of text on which to suggest fresh legislation. Did he (Mr. Hills) find any evidence that their friends throughout the country were willing to give up the widows' clause? In their suggestions they made a proposal that there should be a limit to the time during which a business might be conducted after a man's death. Now he thought they might get a new Pharmacy Bill some day, and there might be some way out of that. It seemed probable that there should be one of the appointed executors or trustees a qualified man—(hear, hear)—and have control. The companies had the vested interest of nearly twenty years. Did they think the House of Commons would ignore those interests? He did not. The speaker proceeded to express regret that the pharmacy of the country was getting

LESS AND LESS LEGITIMATE PHARMACY,

and he feared that there would be less of that in the future. And what were they told by leaders of pharmacy? That they as members of the craft should turn their attention into other channels and become scientific or analytical chemists, go in for photography or spectacle-selling, and so on. He had heard his predecessor say that the training of

pharmacy was one of the best trainings you could possibly give a young man, not necessarily for him to make his money out of pharmacy, but for any purpose of life. Such a man might not find himself able to alone carry on his business, and he might find it best to form a company. But no; they were not to do that, which would be the case if the resolution were passed and embodied in an Act of Parliament. There was no difference between their position and professional persons referred to in another clause. Their protection was no protection, and he was very doubtful whether the clause affecting their professional brethren would ever pass at all. In their suggestions they had asked that all legitimate pharmacy should be in the hands of registered persons. Did he see any enthusiasm about it throughout the country? Not a bit. At the present moment they had a certain amount of practice which was protected, and that was something more than the medical profession had. Through the Wheeldon judgment the public was so far protected, as now every person who retailed poison must be qualified. He was afraid it would be rather difficult under these circumstances to make M.P.'s say, "The public is not sufficiently protected." He could not go to a member of the House of Commons in that way; but the 1868 Act distinctly said it was unlawful for a man to keep open shop without being qualified, and in the present circumstances he thought they should help the Government to reproduce in the Companies Acts Amendment Bill something of

THE PRINCIPLE UNDERLYING THE 1868 ACT.

A MEMBER: The whole of the principle?

MR. HILLS: That there should be someone in absolute control. It was very difficult to draw up a clause, but there should be some way by which they could get more protection for the public, and at the same time bring company-pharmacy into better accord with the principle of the Act. There was one other point mentioned by his friend the Q.C. He (Mr. Hills) asked him, Did not he think the public was best protected by the shop being owned by a qualified individual who had all his capital and reputation at stake in the conduct of the business? He replied, "Yes, I agree with you; but that may be said of almost any other business in this country." The limited-company principle was with them, and it had come to stay, for the whole system of present-day trading tended to do away with the individual proprietor. Did they think that pharmacy could escape that influence? He thought not. He would be very glad to help the committee, if they carried the amendment, to draw up some proposal to submit to the Government which could represent the views he had put before them. (Applause.)

THE MEMBER FOR LANCASHIRE.

MR. RYMER YOUNG said the result was not in exact accordance with the much-abused results of eight or nine months ago, and he thought the Council needed to be reminded that those results met with the unanimous approval of the Council, and he had to learn what had occurred since that time to give authority for this ignominious withdrawal. If they suggested it was because the Lord Chancellor had not seen fit to shed his benign influence upon their suggestions, then indeed they were easily shaken. If he had to infer that every act of the Council in the interests of pharmacy was to be dropped the instant a cold breath was blown upon it, they were indeed playing a cowardly game. Attention had been drawn by Mr. Jones to the fact that they were trying for too much. Was it too much for chemists to require that their titles should be protected? (No, no.)

MR. GLYN-JONES: No; I did not say so.

MR. YOUNG: That was a part of their clause. Mr. Jones had said deliberately that a certain resolution restricting company-trading would have the effect of their direct resolution. Did he think the limited companies would not oppose that as they would the resolution before them? He did not regard the article by "Ordinary Pharmacist" as more than an expression of opinion by an unknown writer, and he (Mr. Young) pointed out that if the half-dozen members who were elected to the Council with him in May last had let it be understood that they were going to do all they could in the interests of store-keeping, they would not have been elected.

Mr. HILLS: I do not think that is fair argument.

Mr. GLYN-JONES: I object. I said in my address that I did not agree with the Council's suggestions, and I was elected.

Mr. YOUNG, continuing, said they were there to represent the vast majority of chemists on the register. They were not there to make legislation comfortable for themselves, but rather that which should appeal to the advantage and good feeling of the trade. He saw enormous damage in this question of regulating company-pharmacy, and they had indeed shot their last bolt when they recognised in any shape or form this pernicious growth. He felt strongly on the point, and he certainly hoped the Council would have nothing to do with it. Let them go to the House of Commons with two or three Bills; let them go to the Privy Council and the Board of Trade, and then, if defeat were inflicted upon them, let them move, and not till then, in the direction Mr. Glyn-Jones indicated. Mr. Hills suggested that legislation should be in such a direction that it would not interfere with the existing state of affairs. (No, no.)

Mr. HILLS: No; I said nothing of the kind. I appeal to my colleagues.

Mr. YOUNG: As little as possible.

Mr. HILLS: No; I did not. I told you what an M.P. had said.

Mr. YOUNG: Then I am mistaken. He (the speaker) relied upon that matter, and he put it to them that they made a serious mistake in giving way in the slightest degree. If Mr. Glyn-Jones succeeded in passing any measure imposing restrictions upon limited companies, it could not be shown that such restrictions would redound to their personal credit. They should see how it would affect the public interest first, and then how it would affect themselves. He should certainly vote for the resolution.

Mr. C. B. ALLEN, having given an explanation of his position in regard to the "suggestions," proceeded to say that the moment he began to draw up clauses of any kind dealing with companies he found he was departing from a system which had guided the Society from time immemorial. He had come to the conclusion that it was not the duty of a councillor to draw clauses which had for their object the idea of making those who could not pass the examinations of the Society on a level with those individuals who did so. That was a principle which he could not possibly depart from. (Hear, hear.) He heard someone say, "Why should not they

LOYALLY ASSIST THE GOVERNMENT

to do that which surrendered their legitimate business rights?" There was no evidence in the general body of their members that such surrender should be made. He was thoroughly in accord with the motion. There had been absolutely nothing done in the country, by the Council or by anybody else, to educate the outside public as to what the business of a chemist and druggist really meant. (Hear, hear.) It did mean trading in a certain professional way. It had nothing to do with free-trade. Ninety-five per cent. of the things that were sold by the chemist and druggist had no relation to this particular question [*i.e.*, sale of poisons], and, therefore, he wanted to do nothing that would seem impolitic. (Hear, hear.)

REVELATIONS AND REFLECTIONS.

Mr. CARTEIGHE said they were in the unsatisfactory position of not having that wonderful panacea referred to by Mr. Glyn-Jones before them. It was his duty to say that Mr. Glyn-Jones's clause had been before the committee, and was rejected by a small majority—not because they did not recognise that it fulfilled many conditions that would be valuable, but as a matter of tactics. It was, as Mr. Allen had said, a question of tactics, and the tactics involved a question as to what was likely to help them. When the clause was drawn, he (Mr. Carteighe) admired the ingenuity of it; it was extremely well done, and whoever assisted at the final process deserved great credit. He was sorry that clause had not been produced as an amendment so that they could vote upon it direct, and he was sorry because he would like the outside world to see the ingenuity with which it had been drawn; and he would like to ask any average person, outside political life, whether he saw any material difference from the other, in regard to

the position which would arise in this particular case. He objected to Mr. Glyn-Jones's clause on the question of politics, and he had to remind the Council that when the Companies Act was brought up, and they interviewed the Board of Trade, they were sympathised with, and were told that that subject was one which could not be developed in the Companies Bill. Well! it was in the Companies Bill, and until the member of Parliament, the Minister who had it in charge in the House of Commons told him, either through their President or in writing, that he would do nothing more than he offered, he did not think they should consider anything else than what was mentioned in that report. It was his firm conviction that they could not deal with companies by an indirect method—by means of a qualified proprietor or manager, or others, which would be satisfactory to the public and satisfactory to the pharmacist. It was true that they had the public to consider, but they had also their own practice to consider, and he thought it was too much to ask them to forego that absolutely in the public interest. Was it in the public interest to lay down regulations by which men of capital could create pharmacies and put in a so-called managing director? Was it desirable to do that, or to make it possible, for the sake of sweeping off those of their poorer brethren throughout the country? His friend on the other side of the table [Mr. Glyn-Jones] was very enthusiastic. He himself did not feel particularly which way they voted. He was going to give his vote for the adoption of the report because he did not think the united skill of the Council could do what it thought it could do. He did not think they could frame an amendment to the Companies Bill which would meet the exigencies of this case. Could they go to the Board of Trade, and take the Blue-book with them, and say, "Here is a draft Bill; consider our position by the light of this refusal"? That was his position. He felt very strongly in regard to the personality, and he was saddened to think that the professional side of their occupation, which was limited to so few things, should have been practically brought down to the level of the grocer or tailor.

Mr. GOWAN CROSS said if the amendment were one pleading the meeting to send back to the committee a report dealing with the regulation of stores, he, on his part, could not vote for it. He would not undertake any such pledge, and he would not be a party to it. He supported the amendment for another reason. That reason was the resolution before the Council. At the present moment he thought this simply impracticable, and he believed it was reiterating a condition which the Council deliberately opposed early in the year. The Government proposed the amendment of the Companies Act, and the way their Bill dealt with company-pharmacy struck a most cruel blow upon every chemist in the country. Surely they could get an amending-clause dealing with the title which individuals alone could work for and gain. He would content himself with that at the present moment, and he believed a great deal of what they wished would follow. After that they could turn round and see if pharmacy as carried on in this country was in the satisfactory condition that it ought to be, and if they found it was not, then an amending Pharmacy Act should be introduced. He should give his vote for the amendment, because he wanted this thing further considered.

ONE OF THE CULPRITS SPEAKS.

Dr. SYMES began by saying that his name had been specially mentioned. (Laughter.) He had been a member of the Council for many years, but he had never allowed his personal interest to stand in the way of his duty to his fellow-craftsmen. (Hear, hear.) If they could that day carry the resolution and prevent companies carrying on the business of a pharmacist—himself included—his personal interest in the matter would be very little. He had a hope from time to time, during many years past, that some conditions would arise by which they could prevent companies from carrying on pharmacy. They had hoped and endeavoured to do something in that direction, but they had hoped beyond hope, and it was not possible to do anything of the kind. They had heard some popular speeches that day, and he thought they would be received with a good deal of satisfaction in the country. If any good results would follow that satisfaction, he should be as much pleased

as any of them. (Laughter.) One or two gentlemen had charged the opposite side with being people who were going to regulate company-pharmacy. He had no idea of regulating it. (Mr. JONES: Hear, hear.) He did not know any other member of the Council who desired to regulate company-pharmacy. They must recognise that it existed, but it was impossible for them to regulate it or qualify it. The position they took up nine months before was to ask the Government to do certain things for them. They were asked what they wanted, and in answering that question of the Lord Chancellor they told him what they wanted, and that was a good deal. But did any member of that Council think that he was going to get what he wanted? They would have liked to get as much as possible, and they found that the Lord Chancellor's only reply was to go in almost the very opposite direction and 'scarcely recognise anything that they had asked for, or at least he had recognised it in such a way that they could not approve. He (Dr. Symes) did not propose to stop company-trading, and thought it would be sufficient to preserve their title and to obtain restrictions on companies in dealing with poisons. They had a good claim for title, and he had advocated it for many years. He had been told by a past President of the Society that they had no title, and they had nothing to fight for in that matter. But he had hoped on, and to-day the title seemed to be the great thing they were going to fight for. There has been too much abuse of the widows' clause. He thought that it was wise that the report should go back to the committee, and, he concluded, they would go to the Government with every confidence so long as their desires were practical and honest and such as they were likely to get.

THE WIDOW'S FRIEND.

Mr. JOHN HARRISON said he had as little sympathy with store-trading as any man in the room. The troubles they experienced arose very largely from the fact that in the 1868 Act they did depart from that principle, and if they were to have any effective and beneficial legislation they should in the first place have to abrogate the widows' clause altogether. They would benefit themselves, and there would be no injustice to the widows. Reference had been made to the medical profession, and there was a difference of opinion as to how far the pharmacist's calling was professional, and how far otherwise. How was the medical profession protected? Certainly as to title, and not as to their practice. He believed that if they could restrict the use of the title to those who had gained it by qualification they were doing the utmost possible good to their craft. He believed that the title had a distinct money-value in the eyes of the public, and he believed it was most important to have the money.

Mr. ATKINS: No!

Mr. HARRISON: Mr. Atkins, with his wide experience, said, "No"; but he had not used his experience to the best possible advantage. (Laughter.) It was useful to have a title to put to their names, and it certainly had a distinct monetary value. He thought they should accept the amendment in order that they should ask what they believed to be practical, and in the meantime there would be an opportunity for the Council to see the Government and to find out how far they could proceed on this matter, and if the Government would support them.

SUMMING-UP.

The PRESIDENT said that he was not able to support the resolution. They were requested at the last Council—in fact, he believed he requested them himself—to be reasonable and logical. And they were to try to draw up a clause. It was only when they began to draw up a clause that they found how difficult it was. (Laughter.) To make a clause that would at all fit the majority of their men almost passed the wit of man, but he thought it was necessary that they should declare their position and not mislead their brethren by trying to obtain something that was unattainable. The Vice-President had made reference to the 1868 Act and wished to claim something for it that was not there. The Act allowed companies to carry on the business of pharmacy and they had had that for over twenty years. They were now beginning to assume the title. The point was that they should protect the title,

and that only a qualified man could do the work. Mr. Glyn-Jones had well defined the position that they hoped to put a company as soon as possible into the same position as they held themselves—(A Voice: "No!")—to have managers or directors qualified, who should have the management and conduct the business.

Mr. GLYN-JONES remarked that by control he meant sole and absolute direction.

Mr. ATKINS asked, Did Mr. Glyn-Jones argue for the regulation of stores?

The PRESIDENT: The registration of stores. Their position was entirely untenable, and no power that they could exercise would stop the terrible influx of company-trading that had come, and they could not oppose it. Touching on Mr. Rymer Young's remarks to the effect that they had suppressed the suggestions that were brought forward in the early part of the year, the President said that the Council had had the refusal of those suggestions, and had in plain English refused them. (No, no!) They were divided on the subject in 1881, when they prepared a Bill, went to the Government, asked to secure powers on this matter, and were told that it could not be done. Was it possible after twenty years they could get that which was refused then? They had less chance now. These were his firm convictions that he tried to enforce upon them. If they had the title protected, the practice would go with it, but to completely stop company-trading was impossible. It had got such a hold upon the Government that whoever one talked to outside their own members it was hardly possible to obtain a patient hearing. They were so convinced that the public was dead against them in the matter that it was hardly worth their attention. He was prepared to have the matter referred back to the committee. (Applause.)

VOTING.

The PRESIDENT then put the amendment to the meeting, and it was carried by a majority of two, ten voting for the amendment and eight against. The following are the names of those who voted:—

For the amendment: Messrs. Hills, Harrington, Bateson, Symes, Southall, Cross, Glyn-Jones, Savory, Harrison, and Martindale.

Against: Carteighe, Newsholme, Warren, Atkins, Young, Park, Grose, and Allen.

The amendment (that the report be referred back to the committee for further consideration) was then put as a substantive motion, and carried *nem. con.*

OTHER BUSINESS.

The PRESIDENT reported receipt of letters from the Burnley Chemists' Association *re* companies, and from the Board of Trade thanking the Council for assistance in regard to the medical scales, on which Mr. A. J. Phillips, an examiner, gave assistance.

Mr. HARRISON commented upon the very imperfect way in which the regulations as to medicine-chests are carried out in the merchant service, and thought that inspectors should be provided to see them properly carried out. Dr. SYMES supported Mr. Harrison in his views, so did Mr. GLYN-JONES.

The PRESIDENT called attention to the *Hospital* article regarding the belladonna plasters analysed by Dr. Paul in his private capacity; and Mr. GLYN-JONES asked what the Council had to do with it, whereupon

The PRESIDENT said he only referred to the matter in the interest of chemists and druggists. Dr. Paul claimed that the analyses had been done by him in his private capacity, and as the remarks made by the *Hospital* reflected discredit upon the craft, he (the President) wished it to be understood that the preparations were not those of the B.P., and, further, that they had not been purchased from chemists and druggists.

Mr. WALTER HILLS read a letter of thanks from M. Bocquillon Limousin for the twenty-one guineas subscribed by the Council to the Pelletier-Caventou monument.

NEW EXAMINERS.

On the London Board Messrs. Harold Wilson and E. Saville Peck take the place of Messrs. G. S. Taylor and

E. W. Lucas; and on the Edinburgh Board Messrs. Innes Fraser and J. T. Tocher were appointed in the place of Messrs. J. Nesbit and J. L. Ewing.

LOCAL SECRETARIES.

The PRESIDENT announced the retirement of Mr. Goss (of Barnstable), Mr. Lanrie (of Blackpool), Mr. Bottle (of Dover), Mr. Currie (of Glasgow), and two others whose names we did not catch, from their positions as local secretaries, and proposed the cordial thanks of the Council be voted them.

SECRETARIES

in the various districts were then appointed, the list being taken as read.

This was all the public business.

NORTH BRITISH BRANCH.

A MEETING of the Executive was held at 36 York Place, Edinburgh, on October 27, Mr. Peter Boa in the chair.

EVENING MEETINGS.

The ASSISTANT SECRETARY intimated that Professor Arthur Thomson had expressed his preference to pledge himself to deliver an address on "The Medical Aspects of Natural History" at the opening of the winter session of 1900 rather than address them this year, owing to his numerous engagements. Mr. Boa, at his request, had undertaken to deliver the opening address this year—(applause)—on November 29. He further intimated that he was ready to receive offers of contributions for the monthly meetings during the winter.

The CHAIRMAN hoped the members of the Executive would support the evening meetings. They deserved support, for they kept up the interest in the scientific part of their work and brought them together to exchange ideas.

NOMINATION OF EXAMINERS.

The Executive then went into committee to consider the report of a sub committee on the nomination of examiners in room of Mr. Nesbit and Mr. Ewing, whose four years' term of office expired this year. Some discussion took place, and when the meeting was declared open it was intimated that the following resolution had been adopted:—

That Isaac Bayley Balfour, professor of botany in the University of Edinburgh, Leonard Dobbin, lecturer on chemical theory and assistant to the professor of chemistry in the University of Edinburgh, Alex. Davidson, Montrose, J. Innes Fraser, Edinburgh, J. Jack, Arbroath, George Lunan, Edinburgh, and J. F. Tocher, Peterhead, be nominated for election by the Council as members of the Board of Examiners for Scotland for the year 1900.

On the motion of Mr. JOHNSTON, Mr. J. L. Ewing and Mr. Nesbit, the retiring examiners, received a vote of thanks, for their services, which was acknowledged by Mr. Ewing.

LOCAL SECRETARIES.

The ASSISTANT SECRETARY read a communication which he had received from London, regarding the appointment of local secretaries. It was stated that a proposal had been made to appoint a local secretary for the county of Linlithgow, and that this matter was under consideration of the Council. Regret was expressed that there had been a want of attention to the nomination of local secretaries by chemists in various districts of Scotland.

OTHER BUSINESS.

Mr. BURLEY reported on behalf of the delegates to the Plymouth Conference, and the other business was formal.

THE "FIRST" EXAMINATION.

WE have received from the Registrar of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain the following list of candidates, who were successful at the First examination held on October 10:—

Allen, John, Grimsby
Altree, Edward, Kennington
Anderson, James M. M., Forres
Anderson, John Miller, Alva

Anderson, Thomas, Blackburn
Andrews, Hugh, Southport
Attenborough, T. Winfield, Nottingham

Bartleman, George H., London
Bates, Thos. H., Birmingham
Baxter, E. M. R., Grangemouth
Bellringer, Harry, Denton
Bennett, Frank H., Stafford
Beverley, Thos. L., Nottingham
Biggam, John W., Whitehaven
Binks, Lilian Maude, St. Austell
Birkett, Robert, Fife
Bond, Francis Collins, Hull
Brinson, Wm. J., Chesterfield
Brown, Gerald Reeves, Hull
Brown, Robert, Richmond
Bulleu, Fredk. E., Streatham
Cadman, Percy, Heckmondwike
Calvert, Sidney, Snaith
Camidge, Edgar Sydney, York
Catlow, Harry, Accrington
Clark, Harry, Settle
Clements, Llewellyn, Burnham
Colebrook, Donald, Plumstead
Collins, Charles W., Dorking
Cooper R., Market Harborough
Cowie, John Wm., Tillicoultry
Craig, Frank, Inverness
Craven, Geo. Leo., Blackburn
Crossdale, Henry K., Heanor
Cullingford, C. S., Colchester
Cunningham, Duncan, Glasgow
Davis, John David, Braintree
Dickinson, R. J., Berwick-on-Tweed
Dodgson, James, Carnforth
Dolling, Sidney John, Chard
Donaldson, John, Cullen
Duncan, Wm. J. C., Aberdeen
Edgar, Allan H., Kennington
Ferguson, Adam, Stirling
Forster, C. H. S., Bebside Wood
Fowler, Henry, Frome
Freemantle, Frank, Woolston
Freestone, H.C.H., Nottingham
Fryer, Raymond J., Uppermill
Gale, Arthur G., Penzance
Garbutt, H., Stockton-on-Tees
Garment, W. E., Northampton
Gaze, John Edwin, Oxford
Gibson, R., Bishop Auckland
Greener, John E., Shrewsbury
Halliday, Samuel H., Runcorn
Hancock, Harold H., Lee
Harries, Evan J., Ammanford
Haycock, John, Leicester
Hedley, Joseph, W., Durham
Henderson, E. B., Wakefield
Henderson, L. B., Edinburgh
Herman, John, B., Liverpool
Hickson, F., Gainsborough
Hogg, Andrew, Langholm
Hollows, Wm. E., Southport
Homes, R. G., Cheltenham
Hooper, Albert E., Cirencester
Horn, J. R., Wath-on-Dearne
Hudson, William, Bedlington
Hugh, William B., Lochgelly
Humphry, Stephen, Dartmouth
Hutchinson, O. T., Sunderland
Illesley, T. H., Barnard Castle
Ingall, Mary C., Lancaster
Jackson, E. M., Gainsborough
James, Thomas H., Fishguard
Johnson, Fredk. C., Dudley
Jones, George R., Amlwch Port
Jones, Rees T., Bridgend
Jones, Thomas E., Pontypridd
Jones, Vincent H., Carmarthen
Jones, Walter John, London
Juniper, Ernest, Epping
Keen, Theodore S., Devonport

Lawrie, W. C., Workington
Leddra, Thomas C., St. Ives
Lee, Edwin Snow, Crediton
Lewis, Alfred P., Birkenhead
Logan, Herbert M., Coatbridge
McDonald, Andrew, Fochabers
Macdonald, Henry W., Middlesborough
McLachlan, Douglas, Catford
McPhie, John, Falkirk
Martin, C. W., Colchester
Martindale, L., Uppingham
Masters, Isabel, Loudon
Matthaei, M. J., London
Meadows, William Ross, Ilford
Merriman, C. E. B., Ilkeston
Milne, John, Penicuik
Mitchell, James, Edinburgh
Mogg, Arthur Thomas, Leeds
Molyneaux, Thomas, Accrington
Morgan, David T., Brixton
Morgan, David T., Aberystwith
Murray, Alec, Leith
Nolan, Walter, Manchester
O'Dea, John, Smeinton
Overend, Frank, Holmfirth
Paddon, Thomas H., Sheffield
Penney, Walter G., Colchester
Pidcock, John H., Birmingham
Piquet, Christine Amy, London
Pritchard, Evan T., Cardiff
Purse, Frank, Sunderland
Quarmby, A. H., Macclesfield
Rees, David Griffith, Swansea
Reenie, John, Aberdeen
Richardson, B., Ruddington
Richardson, James, Larnbert
Ridley, Thomas M., Carlisle
Riley, Walter, Derby
Robinson, George Lawrence, Stockton-on-Tees
Sagar, H., Ashton-under-Lyne
Sample, Arthur John, Whitby
Scott, Frank B., Brixton
Scrimgeour, James, Perth
Sellers, Reginald V., Kilburn
Shackleton, S. A., Abergavenny
Sidebottom, W., Accrington
Sinclair, George G., Thurso
Slawson, Frank, Chesterfield
Sloan, Alan D. S., Dumfries
Smith, Arthur, Bradford
Smith, Frank R., Liverpool
Soesmau, Fanny E., Southsea
Spencer, John E., South Shields
Spurr, Frank, Birstall
Squire, E. W., Leicester
Sutton, J. S., Kingston-on-Thames
Tainsh, John H., Edinburgh
Taylor, Arthur, Huddersfield
Thomas, Sydney M., Ross
Thompson, H. G., Blackburn
Thompson, T. W. F., Edinburgh
Torrance, Jane F., Wilkieston
Trevorrow, H., Newport, Mon.
Trueman, Joseph S., Whitby
Tucker, Alfred B., Honiton
Usher, C. W., Jarrow-on-Tyne
Walker, David, Perth
Weatherell, J., Bishop Auckland
Webb, Donald R., Runcorn
Wellwood, Robert D., Salcoats
Wheatley, Alfred R. F., Loughborough
Willis, Francis Edward, Lee
Winfield, R. W., Liverpool
Wright, John W. A., Bradford
Wynn, Alfred, Walworth

SMELLING-SALTS FOR A HORSE.—First aid in cases of accident is always the duty and privilege of the French pharmacist. A Paris van-driver last week gave his horse such a brutal blow on the head with his fist that the animal was knocked insensible in the shafts. A member of the French S.P.C.A., who happened to be passing, promptly obtained smelling-salts from a neighboring pharmacist, and when the horse came to after a sniff from the bottle the good Samaritan took the name and address of the driver.

Legal Reports.

The Saccharin Lawsuits.

IN the Chancery Division on October 31, before Mr. Justice North, the hearing was commenced of the action of the Saccharin Corporation, Limited *v.* the Chemicals and Drugs, Limited. The plaintiffs in the case sought to restrain by injunction the alleged infringement by the defendants of letters patent, No. 25,273, of 1894. The validity of the patent was denied by the defendants.

Mr. Moulton, Q.C., Mr. Cripps, Q.C., Mr. Graham, and Mr. Colefax appeared for the plaintiffs; and Mr. Wallace, Q.C., Lord Robert Cecil, Q.C., and Mr. Waller, and Mr. Laine were for the defendants.

Mr. Moulton, in opening, said defendants admitted that they had imported and sold saccharin manufactured according to the patent, so that the only question was one of validity. According to the specifications, the manufacture of toluene sulphochlorides, especially of the liquid toluene sulphochloride, commonly known as ortho-toluene sulphochloride, and used in the manufacture of saccharin, was a tedious operation, involving a number of processes and producing a small yield. The process of manufacture in 1885 was a most expensive one, and yet, remarked Mr. Moulton, it was universally followed from 1885 to 1894. According to the present invention chlorosulphonic acid was made to react upon toluene under certain specific conditions, whereby the whole of the toluene was converted into toluene sulphochlorides, which could be separated into the liquid and solid forms in the usual way, no by-products of an organic character being formed. This patented process had practically driven all other forms of manufacture out of the market. Previously only half the yield of toluene sulphochloride could be obtained by the reaction.

Professor J. Dewar, in examination, said that the invention was the best process of making the chlorosulphonic acid. In cross-examination witness said that the fundamental part of the invention was the limit of temperature of the reacting mass, and the use of an excess of chlorosulphonic acid. The ingenuity of the invention was in discovering that an excess of sulphonic acid would produce a particular result. With the existing state of knowledge at the time no one would have been led to anticipate that the use of an excess would produce that result. He had made experiments and found the claims of the patentee to be substantially correct. The yield of toluene sulphochloride amounted to between 93 and 94 per cent.

Dr. Adolf Liebmam gave evidence to the same effect.

Dr. F. W. Passmore said he had carried on the process described in the specification on an extensive scale, and his experience justified the statement that there was, from a manufacturer's point of view, a complete conversion. He never found more than between 2 and 3 per cent. of sulphonic acid present. There was always a slight loss in processes relating to organic chemistry, no matter how carried out. Chlorosulphonic acid was very cheap, and he did not know of any other process for making sulphochloride so cheap as the method set out in the specifications. Toluene was much dearer than sulphuric acid.

On Wednesday Mr. Wallace, Q.C., for the defendants, argued that the invention in question was not proper subject-matter for a patent. The article produced was not saccharin. If it had been the means of producing saccharin so that it could be sold for the first time, then there would be no doubt about its very great utility. But that was not the case here at all. Saccharin had been produced by the use of the very article employed by the plaintiffs, so that the inventor had not given saccharin to the public. Monnet, the inventor, had taken a well-known substance which could be readily bought in the open market—viz. toluene—and he had taken another well-known thing—chlorosulphonic acid. He was not the first to bring these two things together. It had been done before by Claesson and Wallin. Nor was Monnet the first to use the sulphonic acid in excess. Claesson and Wallin admittedly used the proportions of $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 1, whereas Monnet used proportions of 4 to 1. He should also submit that the plaintiffs' case failed on the ground that there was a difference between the actual yield of sulpho-

chloride and the claim set out in the specification. A yield of 93 per cent. could not be said to be a complete reversion.

Professor Percy Franklin said that it was known in 1869 that sulphochlorides could be produced by the action of chlorosulphonic acid upon the hydrocarbons. Benzine was first used, and later on toluene. Claesson and Wallin used sulphuric acid in excess, and obtained a very considerable yield of the sulphochlorides. He saw no difference, apart from quantity, between the product of Claesson and Wallin and that of Monnet. The inference to be drawn from the experiments of Claesson and Wallin was that a larger excess of sulphonic acid would produce a greater yield of the sulphochlorides.

Dr. Otto Hehner gave the result of some experiments he had made on the basis of Claesson and Wallin and following the specification of Monnet. Those experiments, he stated, bore out the evidence given by the last witness.

Dr. A. Bischler also gave evidence.

Lord Robert Cecil then addressed the Court on behalf of the defence. He admitted that a greater yield was obtained by the Monnet process than by prior methods, but they did not obtain the full result mentioned in Monnet's specification. Then, as to the process, there was nothing which was sufficiently new to render the patent valid.

On Thursday morning Mr. Moulton, Q.C., in summing up for the plaintiffs, said it was admitted that by Monnet's process there was a yield of sulphochloride such as had been undreamt of before. So far as utility, clearness, and importance of the step were concerned no one could ask for a stronger case.

At the conclusion of the arguments his Lordship reserved judgment.

"Wincarnis" *v.* "Vincalis."

IN the Court of Appeal on November 1, before the Master of the Rolls, Sir Francis Jeune, and Lord Justice Romer, the case of Coleman & Co. (Limited) *v.* Brown was heard on appeal by the plaintiffs from a decision of Mr. Justice North, who had declined to grant an interlocutory injunction restraining the defendant, who carries on business in Nottingham, from importing, selling, or advertising for sale any wine under the name of "Vincalis," or any other name more or less resembling the name "Wincarnis," by which the plaintiffs' goods were known. It was not disputed that the bottles and general get-up of the defendant's wine were quite different from those of the plaintiffs, but it was suggested that the two names were so much alike as to be calculated to lead to confusion. The defendant's case was that the plaintiffs' article was not a wine at all in the ordinary sense of the term, but the plaintiffs replied that the defendant's wine was a pure sherry intended for invalids and for sacramental purposes in the Roman Catholic Church.

Without calling upon the respondents, the Court did not consider there was such risk of injury to the plaintiffs as to entitle them to say the defendant must be restrained, and they accordingly dismissed the appeal, with costs.

Fire-arbitration.

IN the Court of Session, Edinburgh, on October 27, the Judges of the Second Division gave judgment in an action by William Brown, Sons & Co., oil-merchants and drysalers, Glasgow, against the North British and Mercantile Insurance Company, Edinburgh, and others, for the redemption of two decrees arbitral pronounced in a reference between the pursuers and defenders, and for payment of 1,600*l.* Pursuers were insured for 1000*l.* and 600*l.* against fire, and in January, 1897, a certain property belonging to them, including a quantity of oil, was destroyed in a fire which took place in the Anderston and Kingston Storage Company's store, Anderstons Quay, Glasgow. The insurance company refused to admit a claim for the full amount of insurance, and the matter was submitted to arbitration. Pursuers sought to have their awards reduced on the ground that the arbitrators had violated the conditions of reference, and heard evidence by the defenders without hearing both parties. The defenders pleaded that in accordance with the wish of both parties the arbitration proceedings were informal, and that the awards proceeded on the market-price of the oil at the time of the fire,

as agreed upon in the policy, and not on what the pursuers might have got for it after blending, &c. Before the case was first called Lord Stormonth-Darling assoiled the defenders from the reductive conclusions of the summons, remarking that he had scarcely ever seen the award of arbiters attacked on flimsier grounds. Pursuers reclaimed, and the Judges of the Second Division now affirmed Lord Stormonth-Darling's judgment, with expenses.

Medicine-stamp Act.

THE RISKS OF ONE LICENCE FOR TWO SHOPS.

At Plymouth Police Court on October 26, Frederick William Whittell, bootmaker, was summoned by the Inland Revenue authorities on two charges—(1) for selling medicine liable to stamp-duty without a licence, and (2) for selling medicine liable to stamp-duty without the stamp label being upon it. To both charges defendant pleaded guilty "under peculiar circumstances." Mr. Cecil Simpson, of Somerset House, stated that on July 11 an Inland Revenue officer saw in the window of defendant's shop in Martin Street a printed card, which was headed "Whittell's Corn-cure," and advertised this as a certain cure for corns and bunions, the price of the cure being 2*d.* a box and 3*d.* a bottle. A box of the corn-cure, which was prepared by defendant from compounded figs or something of the kind and acted as a corn-solvent, was purchased. Defendant had a licence previously for the sale of stamped medicines at his premises in Saltash Street, but he had never held a licence for this shop in Martin Street. Defendant said he commenced to make the corn-plaster five years ago, and for three consecutive years, during which he did very well with the corn-cure he had a licence, but as the sale then fell off he decided not to renew the licence until the sale got better. About three months ago a paper came from Somerset House pointing out that he had no licence, and on his taking out a licence and paying 1*l.* no further steps were taken. It was pointed out that the licence applied only to the premises in Saltash Street. He had never had a licence for the premises in Martin Street. A fine of 1*l.* inclusive in each case was imposed.

Sale of Food and Drugs Act.

CAMPHORATED-OIL OASES.

At Salisbury Petty Sessions on October 21, George Williams, grocer, Shrewton, was summoned for selling camphorated oil containing only 10 per cent. of camphor instead of 21 per cent. In cross-examination, the inspector stated that the British Pharmacopoeia was an authority on drugs. Previous to 1899 camphorated oil was not an official drug, and it would not have been an offence to have sold this oil previous to that date. For the defence, Mr. Jackson contended that his client had committed no offence under the Act. This case would not have been brought before the Bench last year, because it was then an unofficial drug. The words "camphorated oil" appeared as a synonym for linimentum camphoræ, and he contended that there was no recognised standard amount of camphor to be used. This alteration did not take place until January, 1899 [May, 1893—ED.] and he asked, How could a grocer in the middle of Salisbury Plain familiarise himself with all these alterations? Lord Radnor (the Chairman) said the contention of Mr. Jackson was that since 1899 the law had been altered, and camphorated oil had been made an official preparation. As defendant dealt in this kind of article he should have known this. He had brought himself within the bounds of the Act, and would be fined 10*s.* and 8*s.* costs.

MRS. JANE HOWARD, of Church Street, Staines, was fined 20*s.*, including costs, at the Spelthorne Sessions, for selling camphorated oil deficient to the extent of 52 per cent. of camphor, and made with mineral oil. A penny bottle of camphorated oil, which was taken from a card containing the printed words, "Pure camphorated oil," was bought by the inspector, and defendant's nephew said the oil was bought so long ago that he could not say from whom it came. The Chairman, in imposing the fine, said that defendant ought to have known from whom she made the purchase, in order to get the assistance of the county authorities in the prosecution of the right people.

SWEET SPIRIT OF NITRE.

At Hleanor County Petty Sessions on October 23, Florence Gertrude Clay, carrying on business as a grocer at Cromford Road, Langley Mill, was fined 1*s.* and 3*d.* costs for selling sweet spirit of nitre which showed a deficiency of 50 per cent. of nitrous ether. For the defence, want of knowledge was pleaded. The defendant had had the nitre in her shop for twelve months, and was not aware of the escape of the spirit, she being ignorant of its nature and quality.

The Homocea Promotion.

THE hearing of the appeal by Mrs. Bowden against the decision of a lower Court in her action against Mr. Brandreth was resumed in the Court of Appeal on October 28, when the Court allowed the appeal with costs. A declaration was accordingly made that the plaintiff was entitled to have specific performance, and Mr. Brandreth was ordered to transfer in the terms of the agreement the 10,000 shares set aside to meet the claims. [For particulars of the case see our last issue, page 730.]

County Court Cases.

CHEMISTS' RISKS.

At the Malton County Court on October 25, before Judge Raikes, Q.C., Thomas Henry Slack, a boy living at Norton, claimed (through his mother, Sarah Slack) 10*l.* 10*s.* damages from John Spanton, chemist and druggist, Norton, for injury suffered by plaintiff from the defendant's negligence in selling plaintiff a noxious substance as a cure for headache. The evidence showed that plaintiff (who confessed that he had no knowledge of the action, his mother having arranged it), when suffering from a headache, went to the defendant (on a Sunday evening) and got a powder, which he took, whereupon such symptoms set in that next morning a doctor was called—Mr. H. M. Holt, M.R.C.S. In cross-examination, plaintiff said he had a penny ice-cream in the market on the Saturday night. He had ham and eggs for tea on Saturday, the same again for breakfast on Sunday, and for dinner two plates of Yorkshire pudding and two plates of lamb and potatoes. He began to feel ill about 4 o'clock on Sunday, and took two Holloway's pills, and had a good tea. In his evidence Mr. Holt stated that when called he was told that it was a case of sickness, but he came to the conclusion that it was a case of atropine-poisoning. He saw defendant, and asked him what he gave the lad, and witness afterwards received a letter threatening him with an action for libel, which he placed in the hands of the Medical Defence Union, and heard no more about it. The cross-examination of this witness was interesting. He said:—

I have not a decided animus against chemists in general. It is not their duty to prescribe medicine. Any chemist so doing is simply a fraud. They can be proceeded against under the Apothecaries Act. I sent some medicine for the lad to take at once. I thought he had been anticipating Bank Holiday, and the medicine was for one who had been on the spree. It was simply an aperient. I cleaned the boy's intestines with an enema. It was no use giving an emetic, as he had been vomiting. I did not take any of the vomit for analysis. I am prepared to state on oath that it was a case of poisoning, and that I can find nothing anterior to the taking of the powder. I will not state that it was poisoning from the powder given by Mr. Spanton. If the boy had died I should have stated that in my opinion it was a case of poisoning, and very probably from sulphate of atropine. I asked Mr. Spanton what he had given him. He said 8 gr. of antifebrine. I told him if he had given him 18 gr. it would not have hurt him. I told him I had a licence to kill and he hadn't. I spoke to Mr. Spanton and Mr. Thos. Wallgate about it after, and said the boy might have been poisoned with Mr. Spanton's powder or a box of tin tacks—but you see he didn't have the tin tacks. I did not tell Mr. Spanton I would make the — pay for it.

Dr. J. D. Leigh (Scarborough) also testified that the symptoms as described were those of atropine-poisoning.

Defendant in his evidence stated that the lad asked for the powder the same as Mrs. Lofthouse's, which was 10 gr. of antifebrin, but he gave him only 8 gr. He did not keep sulphate of atropine, and was sure that no mistake had been made by him. He called once to see the lad. He was led into that, and felt that a trap was laid for him. He

afterwards met Dr. Holt, who asked what he gave the boy, and when he told him 8 gr. of antifehrin, Dr. Holt said, "If you had given him eighteen it would not have hurt him. I shall make the — pay for it for calling me up in the middle of the night." Defendant was of opinion that Dr. Holt had trumped up the case, adding—

I did not prescribe for this lad. A chemist never makes a mistake in his business, and you can't point to a case. I object to Dr. Holt's treatment of this case. Any old woman would know better. They have not given the correct symptoms. The lad, when I saw him, was not swollen in the neck nor discoloured. His eyes were closed, and he showed no convulsive movements. The doctor's animus has been there a long time.

The rest of the evidence was from witnesses who had seen the lad ill, and from Mr. Thomas Wallgate, who was a witness of the interview at which Dr. Holt said "It's either your powder or a box of tin tacks." Mr. Wallgate also explained that Dr. Holt had afterwards told him that if Mr. Spanton had really let the matter drop there would have been no more about it.

The Judge said he had no doubt that it was a case of atropine poisoning for which defendant was responsible. He could not give the same weight to the defendant's evidence as the doctor's, and awarded 5*l.* damages and costs.

A YOUNG LADY CUSTOMER.

At the Brompton County Court on October 30, before Judge Stonor and a jury, Edith Little (18), a young lady living at West Brompton, S.W., claimed 50*l.* damages from Mr. Thomas F. Shephard, pharmaceutical chemist, 250A Fulham Road, S.W., for alleged false imprisonment.

Miss Little stated in evidence that on September 2 last she, with a Miss Channon, went to the defendant's shop for some caustic. While being served, she took up a small bottle of scent from the counter, simply to look at it. No sooner had she replaced the bottle than defendant's son told his father that she had stolen the scent. The defendant then accused her of theft, and sent for a police-constable. She was charged and locked up from Saturday night till the following Monday morning, when she was brought before the Magistrate. The defendant, however, was represented at the court by his son, and she was remanded on bail. When the case again came before the Court on the following Wednesday there was no one to prosecute, and the charge was dismissed.

Miss Clara Channon corroborated several points in Miss Little's story, and, police evidence having been given,

Thomas F. B. Shephard, son of the defendant, stated that he distinctly saw the plaintiff take the bottle and put it in her pocket. When first accused she denied having taken the bottle, but as soon as a policeman was mentioned she took the scent from her pocket, saying that she did not really mean to steal it.

Mr. T. F. Shephard, the defendant, said that although he did not see the young lady put the bottle into her pocket, he saw her take it out. The reason he did not press the charge was because he imagined the theft might be the young lady's first offence, and he did not wish to injure her, and after she had been locked up from Saturday night until Monday morning he thought she was sufficiently punished.

Mr. Brandon: Do you still believe that she really stole the bottle of scent?

Defendant: Most certainly.

The Judge said that it was for the jury to say whether the plaintiff took the bottle from the counter with the intention of stealing it.

The jury, after brief deliberation, found in favour of the plaintiff, assessing the damages at 25*l.*

His Honour gave judgment accordingly, allowing costs.

LIABILITY FOR STOLEN GOODS.

At the Greenwich County Court a few days ago, Henry John Adkin, solicitor, sued W. Putter & Son, chemists and cycle-makers, of Blackheath, for 25*l.*, the value of a lady's bicycle delivered, with various accessories, to the defendants for repairs on July 27, and which was said to have been stolen by burglars. Plaintiff also claimed damages for the alleged negligence of defendants in the custody of the machine, and for losing or detaining the same. The defence was that every reasonable precaution had been taken for the safety of the bicycle, and

photographs were produced showing the condition of the premises both before and after the burglary. Evidence was given to show that the premises were carefully locked up previous to the burglary. The constable on duty said that the place was secure at 1.30 A.M. when he tried the door, but at 3 o'clock he discovered that a burglary had been committed. Eventually judgment was given for defendants, with costs.

Merchandise-marks Act.

AERATED-WATER BOTTLES.

JOHN MOFFATT, mineral-water manufacturer, Belfast, last week summoned Messrs. McClure & Wright, Mervue Street, for a breach of the Merchandise-marks Act by using plaintiff's bottles on which his name was embossed and filling them with an inferior beverage which he regarded as calculated to injure his trade. A fine of 5*l.* and costs was imposed.

Workmen's Compensation Act.

NOT AN ACCIDENT.

At the Edinburgh Sheriff Court on October 30, Angus Niven sued the West Lothian Coal Company (Limited) for 18*s.* a week while incapacitated for work. He alleged that his employment with the defendants required him to stand constantly over a tub of liquid chemicals which gave off poisonous fumes which he "accidentally" inhaled, with the result that he sustained personal injury by lead-poisoning. Sheriff Maconochie dismissed the action on the ground that the plaintiff had not shown that he had suffered injury within the meaning of the Act. The Act, he said, did not define the word accident, nor had it come before the higher courts for decision. In his view the word, as used in the Act, was not broad enough to cover sickness, which was the recognised effect of a known cause acting during a lengthened period. In an accident there must be a certain element of the unforeseen and sudden.

WHOLESALE DRUGGISTS AND THE *Gentlewoman*.—In the Westminster County Court on October 31, Judge Lumley Smith, Q.C., decided in favour of the *Gentlewoman* (Limited) in their action against Richardson Bros., wholesale export druggists, for payment in respect of a series of advertisements inserted in the *Gentlewoman* to their order.

Bankruptcies and Failures.

Re HENRY BURTON BERRY, Sparkhill, Birmingham, formerly of Gloucester, Chemist and Druggist.

THE public examination of this debtor (particulars of whose failure were given in last week's issue, page 717), was begun at Walsall County Court on October 25. After he had been examined by the Official Receiver an adjournment was granted until November 15, in order that the debtor might file a statement of receipts and expenditure from March, 1896.

Re MRS. WILLIAMS, Prescott, formerly trading as Chemist and Druggist.

At the Liverpool Bankruptcy Court on October 27, before Judge Shand, Mr. J. W. Watkins applied on behalf of Ada Jane Williams, an undischarged bankrupt, for a variation of an order made on April 23, 1897, requiring her to pay to the Official Receiver an amount which, with the dividend of 6*s.* 4*d.* in the pound already paid, should amount to 10*s.* in the pound on the debts as a condition of her discharge. The bankrupt had carried on business at Prescott as a chemist and druggist, and also as a wine and spirit merchant, and the failure took place in 1896. Mrs. Williams was examined and stated that her brothers had purchased the business from the Official Receiver, and had formed a small limited

company amongst themselves and their relatives, and that she was now in their employ at a salary of 1*l.* a week, out of which she had to keep herself. It was therefore impossible that she could comply with the order, and she asked for a modification of it. His Honour felt satisfied that she was unable to pay anything further to her creditors, and granted an order of discharge.

Re HARRY BENTINCK BUDD, Charters Tower, Lingfield, Sussex, formerly Patent-medicine Manufacturer.

THIS debtor attended at the Tunbridge Wells Bankruptcy Court on October 25, before Mr. Registrar Stone. The Assistant Official Receiver said the public examination could be closed, as the trustee had received and had in hand sufficient assets, he believed, to enable him to pay all creditors in full. There was no opposition, and the examination was declared closed.

Gazette.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Black, T. H., and Hamilton, T. W., under the style of Black & Hamilton, Liverpool, chemists, &c.

Hertz, J., and Collingwood, P., under the style of Hertz & Collingwood, Lendenhall Street, E.C., commission-merchants.

Whittington, J., and Whittington, W. B., under the style of John Whittington & William Barrett Whittington, Blackpool, dental surgeons.

THE BANKRUPTCY ACTS, 1883 AND 1890.

RECEIVING ORDER.

Storey, Walter (trading as Storey & Son), Chapel-en-le-Frith, Derbyshire, soap manufacturer.

ADJUDICATIONS.

Cornell, William, Ipswich, chemist and druggist.

Jones, Charles Alfred, Leeds, chemist and druggist.

Deed of Arrangement.

Wilson, Edwin, 28a Church Street and 21 Nile Street, Preston, druggist. Trustee, Frederick R. Forster, 25 Miller's Arcade, Preston, accountant. Dated, October 20; filed, October 27. Liabilities unsecured, 7*l.* 17*s.* 7*d.*; estimated net assets, 150*l.* Deed of inspectorship and assignment upon trust, with a view to payment of creditors in full by three equal instalments, at three, six, and nine months, from October 24, 1899.

Bourne, Johnson & Latimer, London 15 0 0

New Companies & Company News.

TRANSATLANTIC OIL COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 2,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturers, and dealers in oils, colours, drugs, hardware, and proprietary articles. The subscribers are to appoint the first directors, who shall be permanent.

E. C. FIBRE COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 10,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of canvas, rope, and twine manufacturers, oil-cake manufacturers, chemical manufacturers, &c. The first directors are G. C. B. Oulley and A. Kinnear. Qualification, 100*l.* Remuneration, 6*l.* each per week. Registered office, West Mill, Glensford, Essex.

BRITISH PLUVINSIN COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 80,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To manufacture and deal in imitation leather and similar materials, chemicals, drugs, dyes, colours, &c. The first directors are G. H. Winterbottom (chairman), Fred Taylor (vice-chairman), W. Cherry, A. Hansel, and C. Escher. Qualification, 100*l.* Remuneration as fixed by the company. Registered office, 12 Newton Street, Manchester.

GILLIATT (LIMITED).—Capital 1,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business carried on by W. T. Horry at 56 Wide Bargate, Boston, Lincs, and to carry on the business of oil and colour merchants, cake merchants, chemists, druggists, and dealers in surgical instruments. The first directors are Alice Gilliatt (managing director, with 50*l.* per annum), O. Gilliatt, and Sophia Gilliatt. Registered office, 56 Wide Bargate, Boston, Lincs.

MAYPOLE COMPANY, 1899 (LIMITED).—Capital 200,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares (50,000 preference). Objects: To acquire the business of the Maypole Company (Limited), and to carry on the business of soap manufacturers and merchants and manufacturers of and dealers in chemical, medicinal, and toilet articles. The subscribers are to appoint the first directors. Qualification, 250*l.* Remuneration, a sum equal to 150*l.* each per annum and a share in the profits (maximum 5,000*l.*), divisible. Registered office, 93 High Holborn, W.C.

EGYPTIAN SALT AND SODA COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 301,000*l.* in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the undertaking of "La Société Anonyme des Soudes Naturelles d'Egypte," and to carry on the business of miners and manufacturers of and dealers in salt, soda, iodine, chemicals, minerals, &c. The first directors are Sir J. M. Carmichael, Bart., Lord Vaux of Harrowden, J. Oppenheim, and E. Zollinger-Jenny. Qualification, 250*l.* Remuneration, 250*l.* each per annum, and an extra 250*l.* for the chairman. Registered office, 3 Princes Street, E.C.

F. W. SWENY & Co (LIMITED).—Registered in Dublin with a capital of 500*l.* in 1*l.* shares. The signatories are:—F. W. Sweny, 1 Lincoln Place, Dublin, chemist and druggist; W. J. Healy, M.P.S.I., Drogheda; R. L. Thompson, L.P.S.I., 55 Strand Road, Sandymount, Dublin; Sarah Jane Sweny, 1 Lincoln Place, Dublin, married woman; William Owens, commercial clerk; Herbert S. Sweny, clerk; and Michael Keating, clerk—each with one share. Registered office, 1 Lincoln Place, Dublin.

J. M. GRAHAM & Co (LIMITED).—Capital 2,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business carried on at Hulme, Manchester, as "J. M. Graham & Co.," and to carry on the business of wholesale and retail chemists and druggists, patent-medicine vendors, &c. The subscribers are:—J. M. Graham, 72 Russell Street, Hulme, Manchester, druggist; Mrs. M. Graham, 72 Russell Street, Hulme, Manchester; T. Littlefair, 27 Cornbrook Street, Old Trafford, Manchester, chemist; A. Pehewant, 26 Hawkins Street, Manchester, druggist; H. Isherwood, 122 Great Jackson Street, Hulme, Manchester, gentleman; Mrs. A. E. Isherwood, 122 Great Jackson Street, Hulme, Manchester; and A. Pearson, 39 Princess Street, Manchester, solicitor. The subscribers are to appoint the first directors. Qualification, one share. Remuneration as fixed by the company.

BRITISH VIABI COMPANY (LIMITED).—Capital 20,000*l.* in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the exclusive right to sell in the United Kingdom, Channel Islands, and Isle of Man, certain American remedies known as "Viabi" remedies, and to carry on the business of chemists and druggists, &c. The subscribers are:—J. G. Morgan, 10 Hyde Park Mansions, W., medical student; Blanche Broadway, Pine Villa, Inx Road, W. Hampstead; E. C. Pegler, Strathmore Lodge, Sydenham Park, S.E., accountant; Miss E. Bamber, 8 Northumberland Mansions, W.; Miss M. O. Harris, 5 Trosachs Road, Dulwich; Miss M. F. Tollworthy, 54 Allen Road, Stock Newington; and Miss B. K. E. Guest, 43 Carminia Road, Balham, S.W. The subscribers are to appoint a sole director. Qualification, 1,000 shares. Remuneration, 10 per cent of the net profits.

MAYPOLE COMPANY (LIMITED).—Before Mr. Justice Wright in the companies winding-up Court on November 1, the petition of F. Waller & Co. for the winding-up of the Maypole Company (Limited) came on, and on the understanding that the costs of the petitioner and those supporting him would be paid out of the assets of the company it was withdrawn.

UNITED INDIGO AND CHEMICAL COMPANY.—The floating of this combination, according to the *Dewsbury Reporter*, is to be expected shortly, with a capital of 250,000*l.* The federation comprises several indigo and dye-stuffs firms

in Glasgow, Leeds, Huddersfield and Lancashire. The combination will, it is stated, be floated to show 8 per cent. on the ordinary capital after making liberal appropriations.

WOODCOCK'S AMMONIA FOAM COMPANY.—Mr. Justice Ridley and Mr. Justice Darling heard on November 1 an appeal from the County Court Judge at Birkenhead to grant relief to the appellants, James Woodcock, a chemist, and his two daughters, under the Companies Act, 1893, for their omission to file a contract, as required under section 25 of the Companies Act of 1867. Mr. McMaster, who appeared for the appellant, stated that Mr. Woodcock was the vendor of the company, and by an agreement of sale it was provided that part of the consideration for the sale should be the issue of 250*l.* worth of fully paid-up shares, 150*l.* worth to James Woodcock, and 50*l.* to each of his daughters. The company was wound up in April. The Companies Act of 1898 provided that whenever shares were issued for a consideration other than cash, no contract need be filed with the registrar, and applicant's omission to file the documents was due to misapprehension. Their Lordships held that they had no right to interfere with the County Court Judge's decision, and they dismissed the appeal with costs.

B. OWEN JONES & Co. (LIMITED).—The first annual general meeting of this company (which carries on business at Hakfontein, Springs New Comet and Boksburg, &c., in the Transvaal), will be held at 45 Holborn Viaduct, E.C., on Friday, November 3, at 12 noon. The directors' report shows a successful year's business under Mr. Jones's management. At present the branches at Knight's and New Comet are closed, the mines having suspended operations. The Boksburg establishment will remain open during the proceeding hostilities, the managing director at that place writing on October 2 that property and stock, he felt sure, would be safe there. The accounts show that a net profit (after payment of directors' fees, managing directors' commission, debenture interest, rent, salary, legal expenses, &c.), of 3 454*l.* 16*s.* 8*d.* has been earned, out of which 700*l.* has been paid in redemption of debentures. The directors do not, however, think it advisable to pay a dividend under the present circumstances, and propose to keep the resources in hand.

Business Changes.

MR. J. CHANDLER, chemist, Lawrence Hill, Russell Town, has opened a branch at 43 Castle Street.

DAY'S METROPOLITAN DRUG COMPANY (LIMITED) have taken over the business lately carried on by Messrs. Pond & Son at 305 High Street, Borough, S.E.

MR. M. MELLOR WOODWARD, pharmaceutical chemist, 51-53 London Road, Reigate, has taken over the next-door premises, with the London Road Post-office.

BOOTLE'S DRUG-STORES have opened a shop at 66 Aire Street, Goole. The fittings were supplied by Messrs. Philip Josephs & Son, of Old Street, City Road, E.C.

MR. WM. IZON, chemist and druggist, of 68 High Street, Aston, Birmingham, has had the entire front of his shop renewed in the latest style by Messrs. Southall, Brothers & Barclay (Limited).

MR. E. HERBERT MORRIS (not Morgan, as mentioned in our last issue) has purchased the business of the late Mr. R. Smith, St. James's Square, Newport, I.W. The business will be known as R. Smith & Co.

The premises at 120 Ferndale Road, Clapham, S.W., where Mr. Charles Benjamin Collett formerly carried on business as a chemist and druggist, but which for the past two or three years have been unoccupied, have now been re-opened as a pharmacy by Mr. J. H. Aldridge, under the style of Aldridge's Drug-stores.

MR. J. J. TAYLOR has purchased the business at 3, Bank Street, Ashford, Kent, for twenty-one years in the hands of Mr. W. P. Forth, who has relinquished it through ill-health. Mr. Taylor was formerly with Mr. Goodall in Fulham Road, and Messrs. Pierce, Tulley & Co, Great St. Helens, and with Mr. Nicholls, Nice.

Correspondence.

In writing letters for publication correspondents should adopt a concise, but not abbreviated, style. They are requested to write on one side of the paper only. Letters

Notice to Correspondents. *with or without a nom-de-plume, must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer.*

Queries should be written on separate pieces of paper, and the regulations printed under the section to which they apply should be strictly observed.

Legal Queries.

98/23. *Flin.*—Registered trade-marks do not lapse if the fees are paid every fourteenth year—i.e., 1*l.* at a time.

157/32. *Timon.*—You do not tell us whether the meter is your own or the company's. If the former, you must, of course, pay for repairs—if the latter, the company should do it; but you had better consult the regulations of the company. An account for repairing the meter is not likely to be submitted without good grounds.

155/40. *S. C.*—Outdoor assistants paid weekly give and require the usual trade notice—one month—unless there is an agreement to the contrary.

91/33. *A. H. B.*—Only pharmaceutical chemists actually in practice are exempt from jury-service. You, being a Minor man, cannot be exempt, even though you join the Pharmaceutical Society.

156/20. *Trader.*—The selling of linseed oil, turpentine, and similar oils in ginger-beer and aerated-water bottles marked with the name of a person is not an infringement of the Merchandise-marks Act, but the custom of the aerated-water trade being not to charge for bottles, it follows that bottles bearing the name of any particular person are, as a rule, the property of that person, and their use for other purposes than that for which they are specially intended is clearly an injury to them. Retailers might reasonably point this out to their customers when they are asked to put oils into these bottles.

159/10. *Saul.*—The month's notice required in the drug-trade may be given at any time by either the employer of the employé. In domestic service it is customary to give notice on the last day of the month of the engagement, but that is not the custom in the drug-trade.

151/15. *Partnership.*—A. and B. buy a business at a valuation, with a goodwill attached, the goodwill being in the name C. & Sons. The business is carried on in the name of B. & Co. (late C. & Sons) for three years. B. dies at the end of that time; then by articles of partnership A. elects to buy the business. The executors of B. object to the business being carried on in the name of B. & Co. as heretofore, although they claim a share of the goodwill as it stands in the balance-sheet of the firm, and demand the suppression of B.'s name in connection therewith. B.'s executors have opened a rival shop adjacent to, and run it under the style of Mrs. B. Can they enforce the suppression of B.'s name and claim a share of goodwill, and also carry on their business under the style of Mrs. B.? [The conditions in the deed of partnership will govern the use of B.'s name after his death. If there were no conditions, and A. buys the business, the use of the name by B. must be a matter of agreement between him and the executors. The executors having realised B.'s interests in the business cannot commence another business in pharmacy, and we have no doubt that if the Pharmaceutical Council were informed of such cases they would have them stopped.]

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

139/22. *E. M. B. (Barbadoes).*—We are not dealers in chemicals, but have stated your requirements to a London firm, who will doubtless correspond with you.

83/31. *Pot. Brom.*—The formula for stout (*C. & D.* July 22, page 137) is a good one. You can get black malt and barm from Messrs. Potter & Clarke, Artillery Lane, E.

151/64. *G. E. G.*—Carbolic Disinfecting-powder:—

Carbolic acid ...	...	...	2 gals.
Kieselguhr ...	...	...	14 lbs.
Gypsum ...	...	...	1 cwt.
Red ochre ...	...	...	$\frac{1}{2}$ lb.

Grind the gypsum in a roller-mill with the ochre. Mix the kieselguhr with twice its weight of the powder, add the acid gradually to this, stirring well, then add the rest of the powder. Then sift through a fine sieve.

96/67. *Nemo.*—The sample of wood-worm killer is a compound of soft soap and crude tar oil.

148/68. *H. C. H.*—Drench for Red-water in Cows.—This consists of—

Potass. nitr. ...	...	...	3j.
Pulv. zingib. ...	...	...	3j.
Sodii chlor. ...	...	...	lb. ij.

The dose is $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. in gruel.

137/18. *Pulvis.*—We cannot find anything but chalk in the nit-powder.

141/8. *L. M.*—We do not undertake analyses unless they are of some interest to our other subscribers.

145/41. *M. & S.*—The sample of Old Maid's Salve is an unguentum resinæ, but softer than the B.P. article. If you increase the lard in the B.P. formula you will get an ointment like what you send us.

118/45. *Pharmacy.*—(1) The white glistening powder thrown down from the mixture containing extract of taraxacum and various bitters is inulin, with traces of potash salts, chiefly sulphate. Filter the mixture. (2) Cough-mixture with morphine:—

Liq. morphinæ ...	...	...	3iv.
Ac. sulph. arom. ...	...	...	3j.
Syr. pruni virg. ...	...	...	3iiss.
Syr. scillæ ...	...	...	3v.
Syr. rhæados ...	...	...	3v.
Glycerini et aquæ, aa. p. æq. ad ...	...	...	Oj.

Dose: 3j. to 5ij. for an adult.

(3) Cough-mixture free from morphine.—See *C. & D.*, October 29, 1898, page 722, and October 9, 1897, page 605.

154/53. *Etcher.*—The Etching-ink given in "Pharmaceutical Formulas," containing fluoride of ammonium, is very suitable for etching names on clinical thermometers. Ammonium fluoride is readily obtainable.

154/42. *Wrought Iron.*—"Spirit-black" is an aniline dye which, when dissolved in spirit, is used, among other purposes, for giving wrought iron a dull black appearance.

95/40. *G. W. B.*—Ung. staphisægrinæ as a nit-application is used like pomade.

157/22. *J. H. P.*—(1) Back numbers can be had from the publisher for 4d. each. (2) You do not give the particulars as to origin and uses of the sample, as required by the rules of this column. (3) It is not illegal to make camphorated oil with any other oil than olive oil, as prescribed by the Pharmacopœia, but you lay yourself open to costly litigation if the inspector under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act in prosecuting convinced the magistrate that the B.P. was a standard.

157/74. *Ajax.*—Hair-restorer.—See *C. & D.*, May 20, page 833, for a representative formula. It is difficult to mix the B.P. milk of sulphur in hair-restorer formulas, unless it is rubbed down first with a little spirit. The calcareous variety does not give any trouble.

155/74. *M. L. B.* (Chicago).—Among a certain number of analysts it is customary to report the amount of Citral in Lemon Oil, but they usually decline to publish the method used for the estimation. One known method is to shake a known weight of the oil with excess of a hot 30-per-cent.

solution of sodium bisulphite, which absorbs most of the citral, and from the amount left unabsorbed, which is read off in the long graduated neck of the flask used for the purpose, the citral is calculated. The results, however, are not accurate, and many analysts of repute decline to return a citral percentage. The most correct method of arriving at this figure is to absorb the citral by an alkaline solution of cyanacetic acid, but as this compound is very expensive indeed, it is never used in practice. The citral content of any sample of oil of lemon should be accepted with reserve, especially as, even if accurate, the result is of little value, as lemongrass citral is frequently added to the oil fraudulently.

145/22. *E. W. Fox.*—You will find list of books for the Minor in our Educational Number, September 2. We do not publish any list of B.P. doses; but if you have a B.P. you will find the whole of them in the index.

149/65. *J. C. N.*—The Cambridge Junior Local Examination certificate is accepted in lieu of Pharmaceutical Preliminary. Send the certificate with 2l. 2s. to the Registrar, 16 Bloomsbury Square, W.C.

144/31. *G. S.*—We do not know what you mean by "Scotch assistantship-vacancies in chemistry."

150/74. *W. P.*—(1) Candidates for the Minor Examination must be of full age at the time of giving notice of entry, and as you do not attain full age until the day after the one on which you propose to enter you are strictly outside the regulations; but the Registrar may have some discretionary power in the matter, and we advise you to address him on the subject. (2) Chloroform is put into linseed, liquorice, and chlorodyne lozenges, and although a portion of it is evaporated in the drying-process, much is retained in emulsified form.

151/21. *F. T.*—Thanks for your suggestions *re* the DIARY. You seem to overlook the fact that advertisements are an important and essential part of modern journals.

153/21. *Gladus* sends us a quotation from a provincial wholesale druggist for powdered tartaric acid (English), which has a footnote stating that "no acid tart. on the market is strictly B.P. 1898, but Blank's is recognised as the best, and is B.P. 1885 guaranteed." Our correspondent has overlooked the statement contained in THE CHEMISTS' AND DRUGGISTS' DIARY, page 493-4, under acid citric, where he will find it stated that samples of lead-free citric and tartaric acid do not satisfy the B.P. test, because they contain a slight trace of iron which reacts with the sulphuretted hydrogen directed to be used by the B.P. This matter was also fully referred to in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST when the British Pharmacopœia of 1885 was issued. It is interesting to us to observe that the quotation for 1 cwt. of the powdered acid is 1s. 1½d. per lb., "keg free" and "carriage paid"—a cut below the market-price, and which if coming into our market-report would bring anathemas upon our head from the acid people.

153/10. *Rhei.*—A solution of salicylate of soda $\frac{1}{2}$ oz. and borax 2 oz. in 1 gal. of water gives hens' eggs the nice brown colour which is generally associated with the new-laid article. Put the eggs into the solution and keep them there overnight, then wash well.

Our space is so much in demand this week that we hold over letters and many replies.

Information Wanted.

The Editor will be obliged for replies to the following from any who can furnish the information.

158/71. Wanted, the address of a firm supplying chemists' ruby electric lamps.

MR. JOSEPH SLADE, late dispenser, prescription department Army & Navy Stores, will shortly open a wholesale and retail business at 236 Waterloo Road, S.E.

Trade Report.

The prices quoted below are the bottom prices obtained for bulk quantities by importers and manufacturers, who do not supply retailers. They are in many cases exclusive of various charges.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.: November 2.

THE tone of the drug and chemical markets is still good. Another advance in quicksilver has been established, which has enhanced the price of mercurials by 1*d.* per lb. Both crude and refined camphor are considerably dearer. Extreme prices are now quoted for the former, and it is reported from Japan that the Government have not yet been able to secure a picul of camphor, owing to rebellion among the workmen in Formosa. Orris-root is still advancing, and the "operator" intends holding out 80*s.* for Florentine root. Cod-liver oil is again dearer abroad, and there is a fair inquiry here. Other changes are as below:—

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Acid, carbolic	Benzols	Oil, cotton	Ammonia
Camphor	Pimento	Oil, linseed	sulphate
Cinchona	Quinine		Oil, savin
Copper sul- phate	Wax (Japan)		Oil, turpentine
Mercurials			
Oil, caraway			
Oil, cod-liver			
Orris			
Pepper			
Quicksilver			
Soda caustic			
Vermilion			

The following goods have arrived at this and other British ports, from October 26 to November 1, both inclusive:—Asafetida, 91; benzoin, 36; camphor (Jap.), 234; camphor oil, 450; caraway-seed, 100; castor-oil (E.I.), 463; castorum, 19; chamomiles, 40; cardamoms, 27; chillies (Jap.), 32; cinchona (Java), 178; cinnamon oil, 5; citronella oil, 67; coca-leaves (Ceylon), 10; cocaine (crude), 6; cod-liver oil, 562; coriander-seed, 112; cumin-seed, 40; eucalyptus oil, 20; dragon's-blood, 2; gum arabic (E.I.), 283; honey (Chil.), 89; insect-powder, 200; kola-nuts (W.I.), 9; lime oil, 31; opium, 335; menthol, 15; podophyllum-root, 196; rhubarb, 31; senna, 188; soy (Chinese), 6; vanilla, 66; wax, bees', 50; wax (Japanese), 52.

Seychelles Vanilla-crop.

A Seychelles correspondent, writing on September 25, states that the prospects for the 1900 vanilla-crop are gradually becoming worse and worse. There is not, at the present time, the slightest appearance of any flowering, and we are now at the end of September. Planters are naturally growing gloomier every day. Prices of old-crop are very firmly maintained, as much as 18*r.* per half-kilo. having been paid for really fine pod. These high prices are partly due to large buying-orders having been received from Germany. The exports for 1898 were 15,344 kilos. to the United Kingdom (460,320*r.*), and to France 9,044 kilos. (271,320*r.*) The total amount recorded was 25,177 kilos.

Alcohol in Japan.

As already stated, the law relating to the importation of alcohol in Japan came into force on August 15 by which a duty of 250 per cent. was fixed, and at the same time various regulations restricting the buying and selling of the article came to an end, contrary to expectation. Alcohol used for pharmaceutical and industrial purposes is now allowed to be imported free of duty in accordance with an Imperial ordinance. The price of alcohol for beverage purposes is to be advanced by 210 per cent. as soon as the present stock

has diminished, but there is still about twelve months' supply in hand. On August 15 the stock in the Ishikawa public warehouses was estimated at about 200,000 cases (each 120 lbs. net), and 5,000 barrels (each 320 lbs. net). Some merchants have bought about 60,000 cases, with the intention of controlling the market, at prices ranging from 13 sen to 14½ sen per lb., and others have followed suit. Prices have therefore advanced rapidly, 17½ sen being quoted generally, and the stock has been reduced to 60,000 cases. Judging from the present state of things, it may be confidently said (writes our Yokohama correspondent) that 20 sen and over will actually be paid by next spring, when the demand for "Shouchui" (sahki), the common beverage of the lower-class Japanese, will spring up. There have been no importations since the high duty came into force, with the exception of a few lots for pharmaceutical purposes. The imports during the three months from June 14 to August 15 was 104,000 cases and 3,000 barrels, the bulk of which came from Germany and France.

Japanese Peppermint-crop.

(From a Special Correspondent.)

Yokohama, September 27.

In the prefectures of Uyen and Bingo the peppermint-plant is now being cut, and the harvest is expected to last until November. The crop this year will be smaller than was at first anticipated, being estimated at 700 piculs, two-thirds of which is in Uyen and one-third in the Bingo district. These districts are practically the only two where peppermint is cultivated in Japan. The outturn will, of course, greatly depend on the weather at the time of cutting. During August and September the weather was unfavourable, hence the estimate was reduced to a certain extent. It should, however, be remembered that the Bingo district last year yielded only a small portion of the entire Japanese crop, but this year's harvest in Bingo will be about double that of last year. Taking everything into consideration, the crop altogether will be only half of that of last season. There is, however, a large stock of old oil held over from last year, and when this has been concentrated in the hands of rich merchants there is likely to be a considerable rise in values, but so far no interested parties have shown any desire to control the market. As soon as the definite figures of the present crop have been ascertained and made public, concentration will commence, in which case there will be a sharp upward movement in the market about November. Meanwhile the market in Yokohama is very firm, and merchants are well supplied with orders from Europe and elsewhere. The present quotation is 4.50 yen per catty for menthol crystals and 2.10 yen per catty for oil, a fair business having been done a trifle below these figures.

The Sicilian Market.

Messina, October 24.

OIL OF LEMON is practically unchanged since my last report. There are many large parcels held by speculators in the country which are obtainable at from 3*s.* 2*d.* to 3*s.* 4*d.* per lb., c.i.f. London. There is a great depression prevailing in the fresh fruit, as orders from the United States are entirely wanting for the moment. It is reported that some holders are unwilling to sell in the present state of the market, as they will have an opportunity later of mixing the old oil with the new, which fact can only be detected by experts, and not by analysis. New-crop for December delivery and onwards is quoted at 3*s.* 2*d.* per lb., c.i.f.

OIL OF SWEET ORANGE.—The market is firm, and the lowest quotations to-day are from 5*s.* 6*d.* to 5*s.* 9*d.* per lb., c.i.f. The present condition of the market would now seem favourable for a monopoly of the article, as oil-pressing is now coming to an end, and stocks are going into the hands of large holders. Should the price of fresh fruit shipped in boxes prove remunerative, it is certain that we shall see a repetition of the prices paid last season.

OIL OF BERGAMOT is in slight request at the moment, and, with the prospect of a good crop, buyers are holding back. Parcels of high grade, containing 38 per cent. to 39 per cent. of linalool ester, are only in small supply, and holders ask 7*s.* 6*d.* per lb., c.i.f. London, while inferior quality is obtainable at 6*s.* 6*d.* per lb., c.i.f. As regards oil of new crop, few, if any, contracts have yet been made, as buyers are waiting to see what percentage of linalool ester may be expected this year.

CONCENTRATED LEMON-JUICE.—The situation is exactly opposite to that of two months ago, when the market was excited; now there is a great depression, and demand is utterly wanting, with the prospect of the new crop near at hand. British importers are anxious to be quoted for the cheapest position of the season, but that is very difficult to discern, as previous experience shows that after a period of depression sooner or later a reaction takes place. The intelligent buyer is usually able to take

advantage of the depression in providing for his wants at low figures, for if orders arrive at the outset of a firmer tendency, they will contribute to its development. The actual quotations to-day are 13*l*. 15*s*. per pipe, c.i.f. London, for prompt delivery, and 13*l*. 5*s*. for January onwards.

Japanese Market.

(From a Special Correspondent.)

Yokohama, October 6.

[The Exchange-rates in Yokohama at the date of writing were:—1 yen, London, on demand, 2*s*. 0*½**d*.; Paris, on demand, 2*5**7**½**f*.; New York, on demand, 49*½**c*.; and Germany, on demand, 2*09**m*. One yen=100 sen. The weight-equivalents used in this report are:—1 catty=1*½* lbs.; 1 picul=133*½* lbs.]

A better tone prevails generally so far as the drug-trade is concerned, there having been several important changes in favour of sellers. In the import articles I have to report a great advance in santonin, on account of advices from Europe, and importers now quote 5.50 yen per lb. In the meantime a small business has been done at 4.50 yen, with higher tendency. Glacial acetic acid, 96 per cent., is lifeless, 22 sen per lb. in 20-kilo. demijons being quoted. Cocaine is firmly held at 9.10 yen to 9.20 yen per oz. in 1-oz. vials. Glycerine was very firm at 29 sen per lb. in $\frac{1}{2}$ -cwt. tins at the end of last month, but since then large arrivals are expected, and the position has become a trifle weaker. Some 400 cwt. have already arrived since October 1. Balsam Peru weak at 4.50 yen per lb. in small quantity; for lots of 500 lbs. 4.20 yen is quoted, with buyers at 4 yen. Senega-root changed hands at 1.10 yen per lb. in job lots; and 1 yen per lb. is wanted for arrival. Cinchona is very scarce, and holders now want nearly double the price—say 45 sen per lb. for 6-per-cent. bark. Antipyrin sells very well at 3.40 yen to 3.45 yen per lb. in 5-lb. tins; and 25 sen per oz. for 1-oz. vials. About 1,000 lbs. have been sold at the above rates since last quarter of September. Alcohol is a shade easier on account of financial condition on the part of speculators; present quotation is 17 sen per lb. in tins, and 15*½* sen per lb. for barrels. Sulphonal is firmly held at 11 yen per lb. Sugar of milk touched at one time 40 yen per cwt., and some 100 cwt. having been imported, a slight decline took place, 37*½* yen per cwt. being quoted. Saffron has sold in job lots at 34 to 35 yen, some 200 catties changing hands at 32 yen per catty for P.J. II. quality. In heavy chemicals, soda caustic is firmly held at 6 yen per picul in 6-cwt. drums, Alkali, Brunner's, 4.50 yen per picul, while 4 yen is quoted for U.S. make. Soda-bicarbonate, Brunner's, is 4.10 yen to 4.15 yen; about 500 cwt. has changed hands. For U.S. make 4 yen is quoted, while a small business has been done at 3.90 yen per cwt. for German; 3.85 yen per cwt. is quoted for U.S. packed in bags.

In export articles, peppermint is very firm and advancing, holders now quoting 4.60 yen for dry crystals, 2.25 yen per catty for oil, and 3 yen per catty for dementholised; there being very little available, holders do not like to sell at present rates in anticipation of still higher prices. There having been very good demand both for home and abroad for several months past, old stocks held over since last year are getting low. It is estimated by a reliable merchant that this year's crop will be 40,000 catties in Uyen and 20,000 catties in the Bingo district. This low crop is chiefly due to unfavourable weather during planting, a big reduction having also been made in the planting-acreage at Uyen. Strange to say, however, the acreage was greatly increased in Bingo. Dry ginger is very firm at 8.40 yen to 8.50 yen for fair quality; and 8.30 yen per picul is wanted for common grade. The stocks are greatly reduced, and new crop will not appear before December or January. For crude iodine 3.20 yen per lb. is wanted, and this year's make will only be small. Potass. iodide, 3.45 yen to 3.50 yen per lb.; iodoform, 6 yen per lb. Some 1,500 lbs. of pot. iod. and 500 lbs. iodoform have been exported this month. Bleaching-powder unchanged at 4.90 yen 100 lbs. for large lots.

American Market.

New York, October 24

Business continues brisk in all departments, and the consuming-demand is unusually large. Interest is centred largely on the quinine-market.

ALOES, CURACAO, is decidedly firm, in sympathy with the African variety. A recent arrival has all been taken up, and values are strong at 4*½**c*. to 4*¾**c*. per lb.

BALSAM COPAIBA is jobbing at 36*c*. to 38*c*. Tolu is firmer and prime quality has advanced to 29*c*. Lower grades are obtainable at 24*c*. Peru has declined to 1*7**½**s*.

BUCHU-LEAVES are steadily advancing in view of the increasing scarcity. Ordinary short leaves are sparingly offered at 23*c*., and for prime green 30*c*. per lb. is asked.

CANTHARIDES is in fair demand, but supplies are small, and for Russian holders ask 53*c*. to 55*c*. Chinese have advanced to 50*c*.

COLOCYNTH.—Prime Trieste fruits have been advanced, 38*c*. to 40*c*. being asked. Spanish is selling well at 17*c*. to 20*c*.

ERGOT is in active demand, and in view of light supplies values are firm. German is quoted at 52*c*. to 55*c*., and Spanish at 65*c*. per lb.

GOLDEN SEAL (HYDRASTIS).—58*c*. has been paid, and quotations have advanced to 59*c*. per lb.

IPECACUANHA-ROOT (Rio) has been in improved demand, and \$3.45 has been paid for prime root.

LYCOPodium.—Stocks are almost exhausted, and quotations for ordinary have advanced to 42*c*. Sales of Politz have been made at 44*c*., and 46*c*. is now asked.

OILS, ESSENTIAL.—Sassafras natural has advanced to 36*c*. Spearmint is moving upward in view of the small yield of new crop; \$1 to \$1.10 is asked. Wintergreen has further advanced to \$1.75.

OPIMUM is dull and easy. Quotations are nominal at \$3.12*½* for case lots, and \$3.10 would probably be accepted.

QUININE has been excited in consequence of unusual demand and diminished stocks. Manufacturers quote now 27*c*. to 30*c*. "without engagement." Second-hands decline to shade 30*c*. Further advances were expected, but have not yet transpired. The demand is in excess of supply.

SASSAFRAS-BARK is selling at 8*c*. and 9*c*. per lb.

SENNA-LEAVES.—All varieties are firm, and the demand is good. Tinnevely are quoted 10*c*. to 20*c*., according to quality, and Alexandrian natural 12*c*. to 15*c*. per lb.

German Market.

Hamburg, October 31.

Our drug-market has been more active this week, and several articles show a considerable advance in prices since last Tuesday.

CAMPOR (REFINED) has been excited, and large sales have been effected at rapidly-advancing prices. The factories have raised their price to 375*m*. per 100 kilos. Second-hand have bought largely, and ask about the same prices as the factories.

CITRIC ACID is quiet, and lower, at 285*m*. per 100 kilos.

COCA-LEAVES are very firm, and dearer, to-day's quotation being 375*m*. per 100 kilos.

ERGOT OF RYE shows a very strong market; here there is hardly anything available; 475*m*. per 100 kilos. has been paid.

KOLA-NUTS are firmer, at 39*m*. per 100 kilos.

MENTHOL is also very firm, at 17*m*. per kilo.

LYCOPodium continued to be quoted at dearer rates; 385*m*. to 390*m*. per 100 kilos. is now asked, which prices are low, compared with the quotation coming from Russia.

STAR-ANISE is dearer, at 190*m*. to 195*m*. per 100 kilos.

SPERMACETI is also dearer, at 285*m*. per 100 kilos.

WAX (JAPAN) is in better demand, at 61*m*. per 100 kilos.

COD-LIVER OIL has again advanced, and is quoted to-day at 65*m*. per barrel for non-congealing oil. Several hundred barrels were bought here for Norwegian account.

STAR-ANISE OIL is dearer, at 14*¾**m*. to 15*m*. per kilo.

CARAWAY-SEED OIL has advanced, owing to higher prices of seed.

Heavy Chemicals.

[These prices are for other market-centres than London.]

As regards the main features of the heavy-chemical market, there is little new to report. A heavy all-round demand continues, with prices steadily maintained on the firm side. Stocks generally are very small, and in some cases supplies are not equal to the demand; in fact, prompt deliveries are not obtainable. Alkali, soda ash, and soda crystals may all be classed as being in this condition, and bleaching-powder is also difficult to buy. Naturally, under conditions of this description, prices show no tendency towards a decline, but rather further advances seem to be by no means improbable. The demand from home consuming trades is a very good one, dyers, calico-printers, and carpet-manufacturers being very busy. Paper-makers, particularly "news" manufacturers, are now using large quantities of raw materials, whilst the glass and pottery trades are busily engaged with Christmas orders. The paint and colour trades, for the time of the year, are fairly busy. In the soap-trade a brisk demand for both manufacturing and domestic soaps is being experienced.

ALKALI-PRODUCE.—As mentioned above, further general advances seem quite likely, although at the time of writing the ruling quotations stand practically as last week.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA is still very dull. Beckton and Beckton terms, 10*l*. 12*s*. 6*d*.; London, Hull, and Leith are all about 10*l*. 12*s*. 6*d*. to 10*l*. 15*s*. Exports from Leith last week were again rather heavier, and amounted to 766 tons.

SULPHATE OF COPPER is firmer. Anchor, 25*l*. 10*s*.; Liverpool, prompt, 25*l*. 10*s*.; November-December, 26*l*.

SOUTH DURHAM SALT.—Firm, and in good inquiry, at 9*s*. 6*d*. per ton, f.o.b. Tees.

COAL-TAR PRODUCTS are very steady all round, and being in heavy demand have an advancing tendency. Benzols, 90-per-cent.,

9d.; 50-per-cent., 10½d. to 11d. Carbolic acids, crude, 60-per-cent., 2s. 2½d. to 2s. 3d., and 75-per-cent. about 2s. 9d. Crystals, 34° to 35° C., 7d. to 7½d.; 39° to 40° C., 7½d. to 7¾d. Solvent naphtha, 90-per-cent., 1s. 3d.; and 95-per-cent., 1s. 4d. Crude naphtha, 30-per-cent., 4½d. to 5d. Solvent wood, colourless, 2s. 9d. to 3s.; and miscible, 3s. 7d. to 3s. 10d. Creosote, 3¾d. Anthracene, A grade, 3½d. to 4d.; and B grade, 2½d. to 3d. Toluol, 1s. 3d.; and pure, 2s. to 2s. 1d. Aniline oil and salts, 4½d. and 4¾d. respectively. Pyridin, 4s. 8d. to 4s. 10d. Pitch, 34s. f.o.b.

Liverpool Market.

Liverpool, November 1.

CASTOR-OIL.—Prices remain unchanged. If the demand increases, prices would advance, as quotations are still low.

QUILLAIM-BARK.—Rather firmer. Some parcels have changed hands for export.

AFRICAN GINGER.—Large sales have been made at 22s. 6d., and now 25s. per cwt. is lowest quotation.

HONEY.—Over 100 barrels of Pile X. Chilean have sold up to 32s. per cwt. Stocks of the lower grades are considerably reduced. Prices range from 22s. 6d. upwards.

IRISH MOSS.—Sales of common have been made at 8l., and little is now available.

GUINEA-GRAINS.—Sales have been made at 80s. per cwt., and holders now ask more money.

COD-LIVER OIL.—Agents for Norwegian oil quote 64s. to 70s. per barrel. Some parcels of Newfoundland have been sold on private terms. What is now available is mostly of inferior quality.

Cablegrams.

HAMBURG, November 2, 12.2 P.M.—Refined camphor in second-hand has advanced to 400m. per 100 kilos. Star-anise is also dearer, 195m. per 100 kilos. being now the price. Japan wax is firmer, the latest price paid being 61m. per 100 kilos.

* * * *

NEW YORK, November 2:—The market here is active. Refined camphor has been advanced to 48c. per lb., and may still go higher. Buchu-leaves are very scarce, fair green being held for 23c. per lb. Golden-seal root is strong at 59c., and jalap is hardening, 13c. per lb. now being asked. Curaçao aloes is in very small supply at 5c. per lb. Quinine is steady at 27c. to 30c. per oz., and oil of peppermint is hardening. Sassafras is higher at 8½c. per lb.

* * * *

AMSTERDAM, November 2, 3.52 P.M.—At the auctions held here to-day 6,141 packages bark were offered (against 7,510 in September), of which 5,120 were sold at an average unit of 6.80c. per half-kilo., as compared with 5.35c. in August. The following were the approximate quantities purchased by the principal buyers:—American and English factories, who purchased the equivalent of 11,911 kilos.; Brunswick, 1,952 kilos.; the Mannheim and Amsterdam factories, 2,182 kilos.; the Frankfort-on-Maine and Stuttgart factories, 4,659 kilos.; and various buyers, 3,279 kilos. The prices paid for the manufacturing-bark ranged from 13¼c. to 71¼c. per half-kilo., and for druggists' up to 93¼c. per half-kilo. The tone of the market was very firm.

London Markets.

ACID, CARBOLIC.—Dearer and in good demand. Ice crystals are quoted on the spot at 7½d. to 7¾d. per lb. for 39° to 40° C. and 7d. for 34° to 35° C. Crude, 60-per-cent., 2s. 3d. to 2s. 4d. per gallon, delivery to end of June. 75-per-cent., 2s. 9d. to 2s. 10½d. for October-December delivery.

ACID, CITRIC.—Quiet at 1s. 3½d. to 1s. 4d. per lb. for English B.P. crystals, and 1s. 3d. for foreign.

ACID, TARTARIC.—Steady at 1s. 1d. per lb. for English and 1s. for foreign.

BENZON.—In good inquiry for all grades, business done including fine *Sumatra* seconds at 9l., and ordinary to fair at from 6l. 10s. to 8l. per cwt. About 40 packages of *Palembang* have arrived this week.

BLACK HAW BARK has advanced on the New York market from 4d. to 10d. per lb. c.i.f.

BUCHU.—There are several inquiries about, but the drug is practically unobtainable; 1s. per lb. would be readily paid.

CALUMBA remains firm, with sales at 27s. 6d. per cwt. for natural root.

CAMPHOR.—Since our last report English refiners have twice advanced their prices by 1d. per lb., following on the higher figures now being paid for the crude. They now quote bells and flowers 1s. 11d. per lb.; 4, 8 and 16 oz. tablets 2s.; 1 and 2 oz. 2s. 1½d.; ½ oz. 2s. 2d.; and ¼ and ⅓ oz. 2s. 2½d., with 1d. per lb. reduction on ton lots. The market for German advanced to 1s. 8½d. for ton lots, but on Wednesday refiners with one exception were unable to quote. To-day English refiners have, to a certain extent, withdrawn their quotations. Crude has been advancing daily, the week opening with business at 145s. per cwt. spot for Chinese, and later 147s. 6d. refused. On Tuesday about 1,000 piculs were reported to have changed hands at 150s. for Japanese on the spot, and Chinese at 145s. spot; since then the market has remained very firm, holders asking extreme prices. To-day 100 piculs Japanese have been asked to arrive at 150s. c.i.f., with buyers on the spot at 152s. 6d. per cwt.

The *China Mail* reports that recently a Japanese Government official went to the hills to examine into a case of discontent among the workmen in the camphor-distilleries. The grievance is that the tax on their work is excessive. They killed the official. Soldiers were sent to punish them, and hearing of their approach they burned and destroyed all the stoves and appliances for the distillation of camphor in that region. The workmen were scattered, and are said to have joined the banditti, who abound in the neighbourhood, and it would appear as if the whole native population were in a state of disorder and rebellion. It is also reported that the Japanese Government has not so far been able to obtain a single picul of camphor.

CINCHONA.—The Vriesseviem cinchona bark department at Amsterdam reports that the shipments from Java from September 25 to October 30, 1899, amounted to 1,383,000 Amst. lbs., and from January 1 to October 30, 9,155,403 Amst. lbs. At the sales on Thursday there is likely to be heavy buying by German manufacturers, and an advance in the unit is anticipated. The Caylon shipments from January 1 to October 10 have been:—

	1899	1898	1897	1896
Lbs. ...	534,640	749,988	599,346	887,094

The Nederl. Veem cinchona-bark department here reports the shipments from Java during October, 1899, amounted to 959,000 Amsterdam lbs., against 1898, 969,000 Amsterdam lbs.; 1897, 735,000 Amsterdam lbs.; 1896, 862,000 Amsterdam lbs.; 1895, 1,100,000 Amsterdam lbs.; 1894, 952,000 Amsterdam lbs.; 1893, 349,000 Amsterdam lbs. Total shipments, January-October:—1899, 9,421,800 Amsterdam lbs.; 1898, 8,895,000 Amsterdam lbs.; 1897, 6,717,000 Amsterdam lbs.; 1896, 8,280,000 Amsterdam lbs.; 1895, 6,929,700 Amsterdam lbs.; 1894, 7,577,000 Amsterdam lbs.; 1893, 6,225,000 Amsterdam lbs.

COCAINE.—Quiet, but firm, with second-hand sellers of reputable brands at 19s. 6d. to 20s. per oz. There are still rumours about that a "surprise" may be expected shortly.

COPPER SULPHATE.—Dearer on the week, quotations having been advanced to 24l. 15s. per ton, Anchor 25l. 10s., and Liverpool 25l. 10s. for prompt delivery. The forward market continues in a strong position.

CREAM OF TARTAR.—Steady at 77s. per cwt. for 95-per-cent. powder, 80s. for 98-per-cent., and 81s. for 99-per-cent. to 100-per-cent.

GALLS.—Persian blue have been in active demand both for speculation and export at 62s. to 65s. per cwt.; green have also been sold at 55s. to 57s. 6d. Of Chinese small spot sales have been made at 60s., and for arrival 57s. c.i.f. is quoted.

GUM ARABIC.—The quantity offered at auction was nearly all bought in. Of 1,452 packages East India 110 packages sold: Karachi Amrad, good, 40s. 6d.; dull amber, 36s.; red, 32s. 6d.; fine pale siftings, 32s. 6d. to 33s.; Ghatti, picked bold pale, 30s. to 31s.; middling, 15s.; low hoggy, 13s. Of 106 packages Pondicherry 11 sold: ordinary, 26s. Of 344 packages Aden 120 sold: good bright, 56s.; ordinary hard red, 40s. to 41s.; very small pale, 29s. to 30s.; siftings, fine soft, 28s.; dust, 14s. to 17s. 6d.; pickings, 12s. to 13s. Fifty-nine packages Turkey kinds, 22 Senegal, 43 Barbary, and 228 Australian were taken out. Small sales of recent arrivals Persian "insoluble" gum have been made ex quay at 19s. per cwt. for good "sorts."

GUM OLIBANUM.—Of 296 cases 10 cases garblings sold at 21s. per cwt.

GUM TRAGACANTH.—Recent arrivals of Persian have been sold at full values, and a fair demand still prevails. Of Baghdad kinds the stock is very small and selection poor. There is a fair stock of Syrian hog gum, small sales of second quality being made at 31s. Smyrna seconds have been sold at 9½ per cwt.

IPECACUANHA.—The deliveries during October amounted to about 150 bales, the greater portion being Rio root. This figure appears to be a record one, and on comparison we find that the highest deliveries in 1898 were in September, when 120 bales left the public warehouse. The largest deliveries in 1897 and 1896, were 106 bales in March and 119 in July. Sixteen bales of Cartagena have arrived this week per the s.s. *Medway*. Rio is obtainable at 14s., and Cartagena at about 10s. per lb.

MENTHOL remains unchanged at 8s. 3d. per lb. spot for *Kobayashi* crystals, or 8s. 4½d. for case lots; for arrival 8s. 3d. is quoted.

MERCURIALS.—A further advance in quicksilver having been established on Friday last, English manufacturers of mercurials added 1d. per lb. to their quotations, the list-prices for lots under 112 lbs. being: Calomel, 3s. 1d.; corrosive sublimate, 2s. 9d.; red precipitate, 3s. 5d.; white precipitate, 3s. 6d.; and yellow precipitate, 3s. 6d. per lb., with the usual reductions for quantities up to 1 ton. Makers report a firm market at the advance.

MORPHINE.—Makers' price is unchanged at 4s. 11d. per oz for bottom quantities, with second-hand sellers at 4s. 7½d. to 4s. 9d. for prompt delivery. In last week's issue the prices at which the hydrochloride sold in auction ought to have been from 4s. 5d. to 4s. 6d. (not 4s. to 4s. 6d.), one lot only selling at the smaller figure.

OIL, ANISE, STAR.—Quiet, but firm, with sellers at 6s. 3d. per lb. spot, and for arrival at 6s. 8d. c.i.f.

OIL, CARAWAY.—English oil has been advanced to 6s. per lb., owing to higher prices for seed. Foreign is also dearer.

OIL, CASSIA.—Quiet at 4s. 1d. to 4s. 2d. for 80 to 85 per cent.; 75 per cent. to 80 per cent. 3s. 10d., and 70 to 75 per cent. 3s. 9d. per lb., all spot; for arrival the quotations are 3s. 6d., 3s. 8d., and 3s. 10d. per lb. respectively.

OIL, CASTOR.—Firm. Belgian first pressing on the spot 27s., and second 25s. 6d. per cwt., ex quay. Hull make, medicinal, 30s. in barrels, 3½d. per lb. in cases. First pressing, 27s. 6d.; seconds ditto, 26s. 6d. in barrels; firsts, in cases, 3¼d. per lb.; and seconds, 3¼d. ex quay, London. Medicinal Italian is quoted 34s. per cwt., c.i.f.

OIL, COD-LIVER.—Considerably dearer, consequent on small stocks in Norway; in fact, it is reported on good authority that some Norwegian dealers have oversold themselves, and are buying in Hamburg. The lowest quotations range from 70s. to 75s., c.i.f., without engagement. There are a good few inquiries about, but buyers are unwilling to pay these figures. In one quarter new oil has been sold at from 62s. 6d. to 65s. per barrel on the spot, and for old oil (1896-97) 60s. to 65s. has been paid for small lots.

BERGEN, October 28:—The market for Lofoten non-congealing medicinal oil has, since my last report, again assumed a higher tendency, and sellers are not now to be found under 63s. per barrel, f.o.b., Bergen. The stocks everywhere seem to be very small, and holders are determined to keep what little stock they have, to meet their wants during the balance of the season. The exports from Bergen to date are 11,768 barrels, against 6,751 at the same time last year.

OIL, EUCALYPTUS.—Sales of Globulus oil have been made at 2s. 2d. per lb.

OILS, FIXED.—Values of *Linseed* have further declined, especially for forward delivery. On the spot pipes are quoted at 23s. per cwt., waterside; landed, 23s. 3d.; barrels, 23s. 6d. *Cotton* easier, refined being quoted at 18s. 3d. to 19s. 3d. for refined in casks.

OIL, GERANIUM.—Genuine *East Indian* is practically unobtainable on this market, only secondary quality being offered.

OIL, PEPPERMINT.—All grades are quiet, with small sales of *Japanese* dementholised, at 3s. 6d. to 3s. 7½d.; and for 40 per cent. oil 5s. to 5s. 3d. per lb. is wanted according to quality. English Peppermint is quoted at 24s. per lb. American HGH unchanged, at 5s. 3d. to 5s. 4½d. per lb. spot. Private advices from New York indicate that that market is firmer again, 4s. 10d. c.i.f. being asked, in reply to which a cable offer of 4s. 7d. c.i.f. has been refused recently.

OIL, SAVIN, has been reduced to 20s. per lb.

OPIUM.—Quiet and unchanged, business in all grades being very small. Good to fine "druggists" is quoted at from 8s. 9d. to 9s. 6d. per lb.; seconds, 8s. 6d.; and soft-shipping, 10s. 6d. to 11s. 6d. Persian is unaltered at 12s. to 12s. 6d. per lb., small sales having been made at the outside figure for finest.

SMYRNA, October 20.—The week under review has been very active, owing to the fact that the autumn sowings have been accomplished under favourable conditions, rains having been fairly continuous. The general impression is that prices will be maintained, and if the present brisk demand continues, we may see higher prices later on. The sales for the week are as follows:—Forty-eight cases old and new Karahissar, at the equivalent of 8s. 6d. to 8s. 7d.; one case new Yerli, at 8s. 10d. to 9s.; and 50 cases new Karahissar, which have been bought for American account. The arrivals to date are 2,035 cases, against 1,020 at the corresponding period of last year.

SMYRNA, October 24.—Sales on this market since October 10 amount to 64 cases druggists', at the parity of 8s. 1d. per lb.; 20 cases selected, at 8s. 5d. to 8s. 6d.; 20 cases Balukissar, at 8s. 4d.; and 20 cases soft-shipping, at up to 9s. per lb.—all f.o.b. Stocks here are now very much reduced—say, 300 to 350 cases druggists' and 230 cases "soft." Market keeps steady, at about 8s. 1d., f.o.b. Had it not been for the "bull" tactics in Smyrna, there would have been sellers both in that town and here at 8s. or a trifle under, as, owing to favourable weather for fall sowings, holders had begun to show some anxiety to sell. As it is, we think values will not now decline below 8s. for some time to come, and the probabilities are that the "bull" clique will take advantage of any signs of American buying on a large scale to run up values.

ORRIS.—Again dearer, sales of picked Florentine root having been made early in the week at 50s. per cwt., c.i.f., for selected Florentine. There are few, if any, sellers now on the spot, except at extreme prices. Other c.i.f. quotations received from Leghorn this week are from 54s. 6d. to 60s. for picked. It is reported that the large French manufacturer who has "cornered" the stock is now holding out for 80s. for Florentine picked and 70s. for sorts. To-day there are still sellers at 50s. per cwt., c.i.f., for picked, 46s. for sorts, and 45s. for small white. For Verona root from 24s. to 33s. per cwt. is quoted.

PHENACETIN, B.P. quality, is quoted by makers at from 3s. 3d. to 3s. 5d. per lb. net, the lower figure being for 5-cwt. quantities. In second-hands Riedels' brand is obtainable at 3s. 2d. per lb. in 1-cwt. quantities.

PODOPHYLLUM is quoted firmer at 21s. per cwt., c.i.f. About 150 packages have arrived from Baltimore this week, but they are going direct into consumption.

POTASH CHLORATE.—Continental advices report that the syndicate which had its headquarters in Paris for many years was dissolved on October 6, and that following the dissolution the price fell about 6m. to 7m. per 100 kilos.

QUICKSILVER.—Importers again advanced their quotation 2s. 6d. on October 27—now 9½ 5s. per bottle, and to-day there was no second-hand quotation.

QUININE.—The second-hand market has remained quiet throughout the week, although December delivery has advanced ¼d. and March ½d. per oz. since our last report, there being sellers on Tuesday at 1s. 1¼d. for December and 1s. 2d. per oz. for March delivery. To-day, however, the market has assumed a firmer tendency, owing to the advance at the Amsterdam bark-sales, business being done at 1s. 2d. for December delivery, and March at 1s. 2½d. to 1s. 2¼d. per oz. Makers contemplate an advance.

SAFFRON.—*French* of new crop is quoted at 37s. 9d. per lb. delivered, and *Alicant*, at 25s. to 26s. It is expected a month will elapse before new *Valencia* arrives on this market; about 40s. is the quotation.

SARSAPARILLA.—The arrivals this week are 20 bales of Lima-Jamaica and 7 bales of grey Jamaica.

SASSAFRAS is offered at 4d. per lb. c.i.f. with few sellers in New York.

SENNA.—Few sales of Tiunevelly leaf have been made since the auctions, but there are several inquiries about. It is reported that there is now no Bombay steamer due until November 26, so that the 180 bales just in will practically be the month's supply. The demand for Alexandrian has entirely fallen off.

SHELLAC.—On the spot there has been a steady demand resulting in sales of second orange at 62s. to 64s. per cwt. for middling to good TN. For arrival a few hundred cases have changed hands at 66s. for January delivery, and November-January delivery at 63s. per cwt.

SPICES.—Both pepper and cloves are rather dearer since our last report, but other articles are unchanged in value. At the auctions on Wednesday Cochin *Ginger* partly sold at steady rates; bold cut at 77s. 6d., medium at 56s., and small at 33s. per cwt.; washed rough at 23s. for small mouldy, fair at 25s. to 25s. 6d. per cwt. Bengal is selling privately at 23s. 6d. to 24s. per cwt.; a very wormy parcel was bought in at 21s. per cwt. Penang *Cloves* were withdrawn at 6d. to 7d. per lb. for ordinary to good; Zanzibar are dearer, a good business having been done on the spot at 3⁵/₁₆d., and for delivery at 3³/₁₆d. to 3¹¹/₁₆d. per lb. Good red Sierra Leone *Capsicums* were bought in at 35s. per cwt., long red East India on stalk selling at 30s. per cwt. *Pimento* rather firmer; ordinary sold at 3¹/₂d., fair at 3¹/₂d., while ⁵/₁₆d. per lb. was refused for good clean. *Pepper* dearer; good Tellicherry was bought in at 5¹/₂d., a bid of ¹/₁₆d. less being refused. Singapore is selling privately at 5¹/₂d. on the spot, and at 6³/₁₆d. for distant shipment. Singapore white has been sold at 9d. per lb. for October-December shipment, and at 9¹/₂d. for January-March steamer. *Arrowroot* quiet. A small parcel of common St. Vincents at auction last Wednesday sold at 3³/₄d. per lb., subject:

THYMOL.—Supplies are exceedingly short, and there is practically nothing on offer now owing to the long-continued scarcity of ajowan seed. The nominal value is about 7s. per lb.

TURMERIC remains firm, but quiet, small sales being reported in *Bengal* at 28s. per cwt., and *Cochin* split bulbs at 12s. *Madras* finger, fair bright, is quoted at 32s. 6d. to 37s. 6d., and *Chinese* finger 26s. per cwt.

VANILLA.—An auction will be held next Wednesday, when over 500 tins will be offered.

VERMILION.—English makers have advanced their quotations to 2s. 6d. per lb. for 300-lb. lots, 2s. 7d. for 150 lbs., and 2s. 8¹/₂d. for smaller wholesale quantities. *Chinese* is also very firm, and nothing now obtainable under 2s. 6d. per lb.

WAX, JAPANESE.—Firmer, with fair sales of good pale squares at 31s. per cwt. on the spot, and for arrival the same figure is now asked for December-January shipment.

Coming Events.

Postcard-notice of meetings to be held should be sent by Secretaries not later than Wednesday of the week before the meetings are held.

Monday, November 6.

A meeting for consideration of the Chemists' Ball for 1900 will be held at 17 Bloomsbury Square, W.C., at 2.40 P.M. Mr. W. Warren, 24 Russell Street, W.C., is Hon. Secretary. *Society of Chemical Industry*, London Section, Burlington House, Piccadilly, at 8 P.M. Mr. W. F. Reid on "Velvrit" material, a new substitute for indiarubber and gutta-percha. *Dewsbury and District Chemists' Association*, Town Hall, Dewsbury, at 8.30 P.M. Ordinary meeting.

Tuesday, November 7.

Bradford and District Chemists' Association, County Restaurant Bradford, at 9 P.M. Conversation on trade topics. *Royal Photographic Society*, 5A Pall Mall East, S.W., at 8 P.M. Lantern-lecture on "Some Mediæval Towns of Germany," by Mr. J. J. Vezey. At the *Whitehall Rooms*, Hôtel Métropole, at 8 P.M. Lecture on "Ceylon in 1899," by Mr. John Ferguson, under the auspices of the Royal Colonial Institute.

Wednesday, November 8.

Midland Chemists' Assistants' Association, Exchange Rooms Stephenson Place, Birmingham, at 9 P.M. Social evening. *Manchester Pharmaceutical Association*, at 7.30, at Victoria Hotel. Address on "Local Associations and their Federation," by Mr. John Smith, of Liverpool.

Thursday, November 9.

Chemists' Assistants' Association, 73 Newman Street, W., at 9 P.M. Impromptu discussion.

London Drug Statistics.

The following statistics are compiled from information supplied by public warehouses. They relate to the receipts and deliveries of some of the leading drugs from and into the London public warehouses from January 1 to October 31, 1899, and to the stocks on October 31. Their accuracy cannot be guaranteed.

	October		Stocks		1899	
	Landed	Delivd.	1899	1898	Imprtd.	Delivd.
Aloes cs &c.	179	206	2,485	2,919	1,469	1,747
" gourd.	—	—	895	3,708	2,269	3,094
Anise, star cs	—	4	63	5	263	205
Balsam csks &c.	22	207	594	546	1,335	1,116
Calumha-root ..hgs	—	73	226	461	1,089	1,399
Camphor pkgs	—	2,541	2,786	9,258	6,440	8,557
Cardamoms ..cs &c.	186	497	1,862	1,395	4,398	3,805
Cinchona pkgs	1,483	1,731	17,954	20,734	16,900	18,987
Cinehs bgs	—	5	1,824	1,869	127	116
Crocus cs	33	8	144	21	252	155
Galls pkgs	—	1,067	3,366	4,523	6,465	6,070
Gums—						
Ammoniacum "	3	11	78	74	31	61
Animi & copal "	18.9	3,819	12,952	16,509	32,179	33,509
Arabic "	3,554	2,447	11,531	5,850	17,652	19,172
Asafetida .. "	—	84	570	448	1,373	1,083
Benzoin "	93	393	1,240	2,566	1,762	2,666
Damar "	4.0	587	4,720	3,165	5,912	4,324
Galbanum .. "	—	—	—	—	—	14
Gamboge "	11	43	337	358	192	248
Gualacum .. "	—	—	56	85	93	95
Kauri tons	266	303	1,615	612	4,068	3,065
Kino pkgs	—	6	55	37	92	103
Mastic "	—	1	11	8	28	31
Myrrh, E.I. .. "	27	53	247	457	736	325
Olibanum .. "	82	619	2,614	3,085	4,868	5,611
Sandarac "	41	209	475	971	915	1,187
Tragacanth. .. "	930	982	1,533	1,192	7,494	7,426
Ipecacuanha, Rio his	96	1	221	120	150	487
" other kinds pkgs	47	29	63	27	700	259
Jalap his	—	15	320	324	160	143
Nux vomica .. pkgs	30	36	399	361	1,441	1,158
Oils—						
Anise cs	10	36	196	252	183	104
Cassia "	—	3	84	78	43	35
Castor pkgs	417	284	1,053	509	2,232	1,927
Coccol-nut .. tons	43	118	706	114	1,119	1,113
Olive csks, &c.	323	183	925	829	2,475	2,094
Palm tons	6	8	11	13	39	34
Quinine sulph. .. his	6,130	11,442	160,662	107,477	102,755	54,352
Rhubarb chte	191	200	1,379	1,547	574	1,222
Sarsaparilla .. hales	55	93	783	731	1,021	1,004
Senna his &c.	520	472	735	1,635	2,640	3,119
Shellac, all kinds cs	2,638	7,407	44,224	48,853	40,517	45,361
Turmeric tons	7	30	179	306	332	367
Wax, bees' pkgs	500	310	1,686	2,742	4,811	4,790
" Japan cs &c.	35	75	4	443	725	642

* Stocks of aniseed and cassia oils lying at Smith's Wharf and Brewer's Quay are not included in this return.

† Includes the quantity at Red Lion, Bull, and Smith's Wharves; all other Docks.

MESSRS. HENRY FINKLER & Co., 29 Mitting Lane, E.C., have been appointed London representatives of the "Società Esportazione Radici d'Ireos di Verona" (Verona Orris Root Export Company).

WESTERN CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION (OF LONDON).—The following have been elected officers of this Association for the ensuing year:—President, Mr. J. F. Harrington; Vice-President, Mr. H. Cracknell; Treasurer, Mr. J. H. Mathews; Hon. Secretaries, Mr. W. J. I. Philp and Mr. A. G. Worsley.

THE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS IN CAMBRIDGE have resulted in the return of Alderman Arthur Deck, the patriarch of Cambridge chemists, Alderman T. Hyde Hills (brother of Mr. Walter Hills), and Alderman Horace Darwin, a son of the great Charles Darwin. Mr. George Peck, pharmacist, and Mr. A. Sidney Campkin, J.P., are members of the Council.